

THE UNITED STATES *Miller*

SEVENTEENTH YEAR, No. 1.

MILWAUKEE, JANUARY, 1892.

\$1.00 per Year. 10c. per Copy.

1892.

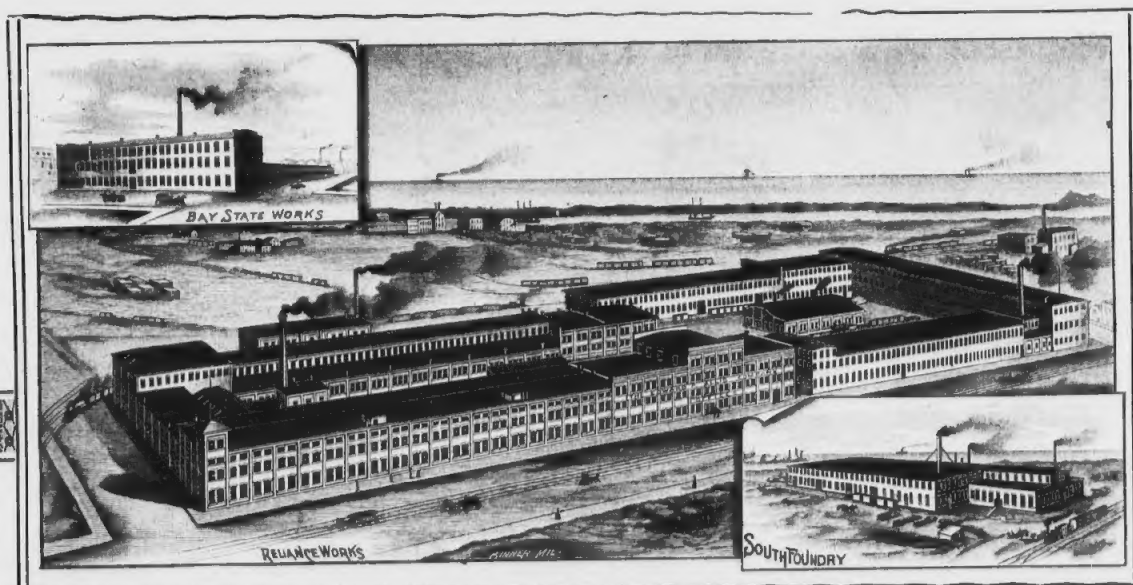
DURING this year, as in the past, we will continue to preserve the high character of the machinery which we have introduced in so many of the

BEST AND LARGEST FLOURING MILLS IN THE COUNTRY.

In a short time we will be prepared to place before millers, some new features in

PURIFIERS, DUST COLLECTORS
AND SIEVE SCALPERS

of which a new catalogue is in progress of publication.



WE will also make a special feature of ROLLER MILLS from 30 to 50 barrels capacity, which will be sold at liberal prices. Catalogue of same is now ready for distribution. Don't delay writing us.

THE EDWARD P. ALLIS COMPANY,

MILL BUILDERS AND MILL FURNISHERS,

RELIANCE WORKS.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

BARNARD'S AIR BELT,

PURIFIER AND BEST ON EARTH DUST COLLECTOR

Office COLUMBIA MILLS,

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., Dec. 15, 1891.

BARNARD & LEAS MFG. CO., Moline, Ill.

GENTLEMEN: I have been using your latest Improved Air Belt Purifiers for the past six months, and consider them superior to any Air Belt Purifier I have ever seen in operation. I have displaced both Sieve Purifiers and Air Belt Purifiers of other makes for your Air Belt Machines with the most favorable results, removing the fluff matter clean without wastage. In regard to the capacity, I am handling all the germ middlings from 2000 barrels in 24 hours on two of your No. 3 machines, and also the next grade of middlings from this same output on two more of your No. 3 machines. Your machines have displaced four No. 2 Sieve Purifiers with results highly satisfactory. They have also displaced four Dust Catchers, as they save every particle of dust which the Dust Catchers were unable to do, thus making my mill much cleaner. The machine, when properly adjusted, will require very little attention; in fact, requires as little or less attention than any machine in the mill. I consider the use of your machine as a matter of great importance as it does the work of both a Sieve Purifier and Dust Collector and economizes space, power, first cost and repairs, and increases the results.

Yours truly,

F. D. ZIMMERMAN,

Head Miller,

THE MINNECHADUZA MILL,

S. F. GILMAN, Proprietor.

VALENTINE, NEB., Dec. 14, 1891.

MESSRS. BARNARD & LEAS, Moline, Ill.

DEAR SIRS: The six Self-Contained Air Belt Purifiers at Pierce, Neb., after using 90 days are working to my entire satisfaction.

We shall start up the twelve (12) Air Machines of yours to-morrow, that are in this mill, and expect great work as I have them very nicely set up.

As before stated, I have no other Purifiers in either the mill at Pierce or in this plant, and would not take the gift of the very best Sieve Purifier Machine, as I have no use for them.

I will write you again in a day or two and report on the operation of these machines.

Were ready to run a week ago, but when we raised up the water we overflowed the public highway, and had to pull down the water and have the road graded up.

You are at perfect liberty to refer any of your would-be customers to me, as I have never, in 25 years' experience, seen their equal.

Yours truly,

S. F. GILMAN.

B. K. TURNER & CO.,

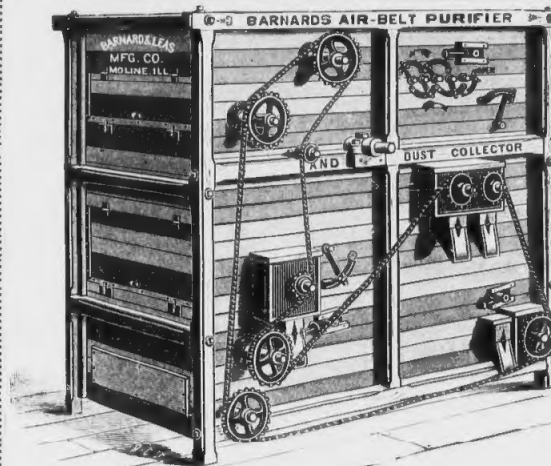
MILLERS,

BARNARD & LEAS MFG. CO.,
Moline, Ill.

GENTLEMEN:

As to the Purifier we consider it unequalled.
Respectfully,

B. K. TURNER & CO.



CENTRALIA, ILL., Dec. 15, 1891.

BARNARD & LEAS MFG. CO., Moline, Ill.

GENTLEMEN:—In reply to your letter asking how we like the Air Belt Purifier, to say that we are delighted with it would be putting it mildly. Our only regret is we did not put in Air Belt to handle our fine middlings in place of a Sieve machine, which we will do in the near future. We have put our flour on the market and the trade has felt it.

Very truly,

W. G. JONES,

Head Miller for KEISER BROS. MILLING CO.

NORTHERN MILLING CO.,

GRAND FORKS, NORTH DAKOTA, Dec. 12, 1891.

The BARNARD & LEAS MFG. CO., Moline, Ill.

GENTLEMEN: In reply to your favor of the 10th inst., regarding the Air Belt Purifiers you put in our mill, we are more than satisfied with them. They do better work than the Sieve Purifiers, take up one-quarter the space, do away with Dust Collectors and run so much lighter that we save fuel even in our small mill; that we would not use any other kind if we got them for nothing; and if we were to increase our capacity, which we contemplate doing, we will certainly put in your Purifiers, no matter what company do the work.

Respectfully,

WALTER J. S. TRAILL

THE DAISY ROLLER MILLS,

COLE CAMP, MO., Dec. 15, 1892.

BARNARD & LEAS MFG. CO., Moline, Ill.

GENTLEMEN:—In replying to yours of the 10th inst., will say that I can most heartily recommend your Air Belt Purifier to the Milling public. It is so far ahead of the old Sieve Purifiers and let me say right here that I have handled them all that it allows of no comparisons. If you compare it to the Sieve Purifier then compare the old Sieve Purifier to nothing and you will have the comparison. I'll tell you gentlemen it is a fine machine, and you can well be proud of it. It does its work to perfection, collects its own dust, no clothes to wear out, and you do not have to tie it down to keep it from running out of the mill. It runs so still and easy that you have to look at it to see if it is in motion, and at any time that I can serve you let me know. Yours,

F. A. SCHUPP.

THIS MACHINE IS MANUFACTURED EXCLUSIVELY BY

BARNARD & LEAS MFG. CO.,

MOLINE, ILLINOIS.

AGENTS:

J. W. PAYNE,
Room 3, Chamber of Commerce, Indianapolis, Ind.

F. G. WALLACE,
Produce Exchange, Toledo, Ohio.

JOHN SYPHERS, Henderson, Ky.

M. M. SNIDER,
1323 Capitol Avenue, Des Moines, Iowa.

R. C. STONE, Springfield, Mo.**STUART HARE,** Enterprise, Kan.**J. M. ALLEN,** Lisbon, North Dak.

F. B. HOTALING,
Cor. East Water and Grape Sts., Syracuse, N. Y.

WM. R. DELL & SON,
26 Mark Lane, London, E. C., England.

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THE UNITED STATES Miller

SEVENTEENTH YEAR, No. 1.

MILWAUKEE, JANUARY, 1892.

\$1.00 per Year. 10c. per Copy.

MILWAUKEE'S NEW FEDERAL BUILDING.

As an indication of the growth and prosperity of Milwaukee we present a view of the new federal building from plans as finally decided upon by the supervising architect of the government, the dates concerning which we take from the Milwaukee Sentinel:

The style of architecture is what is known as the Romanesque. It is about the most popular style for government buildings in Europe as well as in America. It combines durability with simplicity and dignity, and in the case of the Milwaukee building it will be elaborately embellished with carvings. The main entrance to the building will be located beneath the tower on Wisconsin street. This will be covered by a portico to the height of the first story and will be a five-arched entrance, which will prove a very effective feature in the design. The tower will be 175 feet high and will be twenty feet square on the base.

Besides the main entrance there will be a side entrance to the postoffice on Jefferson street. The pavilions at the corner of Wisconsin and Jefferson streets will be occupied as the offices of postmaster and the assistant postmaster, while the money order and registered letter division will occupy the corresponding pavilion on the corner of Jackson and Wisconsin streets.

Two-thirds of the first floor will be reserved for the work-

ing room of the postoffice. This, of course, will be surrounded by a corridor to afford easy access to the office of the postmaster and his assistant, and the clerks in the money order and registered letter division.

The remainder of the basement will be occupied by the bonded warehouse, the heating apparatus, machinery for running the elevators and for storing of fuel.

The main staircase is located at the right of the Wisconsin street entrance, and adjacent to it two elevators will be placed. From the top to the bottom of the building four large ventilating stacks will run, so that the best means for securing light and ventilation have been adopted in drawing the plans. The second story will be divided off into rooms which will be occupied by the collector of internal revenue, collector of customs, superintendent of railway mail service, steamboat in-

marshals, clerks, district attorney and other court officers. A fine room at the corner of Wisconsin and Jefferson streets is reserved for hearings. A well lighted room is also set apart for the court library on the Jefferson street front.

Mr. Edbrooke has taken pains to perfect plans for a building here which shall not only serve all purposes for which it is designed, but which will also embrace within itself all the most modern conveniences and appliances suitable for a structure of this character. The supervising architect seems to have perfected plans which will make a building of which he as well as the citizens of Milwaukee may be proud.

THE Goodrich Transportation Co. have decided upon building a mate to their floating steel

palace "Virginia," to ply between Milwaukee and Chicago. It is expected to have her ready in time to carry World's Fair passengers to Chicago in 1893. The "Virginia" is one of the finest, as well as one of the fastest, passenger steamers afloat. She was

built last season in Cleveland by the Globe Iron Works. Her tonnage is 2,500, with engines of 5,000 horse power; 277 feet in length and 38 feet beam. With two such boats on the Chicago route the G. T. Co. stands a good chance of securing a large share of the passenger traffic between the two cities.

THE value of goods directly imported to Milwaukee was \$1,290,581, an increase of \$417,832.



MILWAUKEE'S NEW FEDERAL BUILDING.

The whole working room will be adequately lighted through the exterior windows and by a large central well. Mails will be received and delivered from the rear in the basement. In this basement liberal accommodations will be made for the carriers who will have provided for them a sitting room in the rear pavilion on the Jefferson street side with adequate provision in the way of lockers for their clothing, toilet rooms, etc.

spector, pension agent and other government officers.

The third floor will be devoted to the courts and court officers, the District court room being located in the center of the Jefferson street line, while the Circuit court will be quartered in the central pavilion. At the rear of the building convenient sets of rooms in connection with the court rooms are to be provided upon the exterior of the building for the

Cawker's American Flour Mill and Grain Elevator Directory

FOR 1892-1893

Will contain: 1. A list of Flour Mills in each State, Territory and Province, with names of owners, P. O. and county; in thousands of instances giving their capacity in barrels per day, kind of power used, etc., also indicating such firms as are supposed to be worth \$10,000 and upwards. Total number of mills given, about 18,000.

2. A list of miscellaneous mills, such as Corn, Oatmeal, etc.
3. A list of Millwrights.
4. A list of Grain Elevator Owners and Grain Dealers.

The price is invariably Ten Dollars per Copy, on receipt of which it will be sent, post paid, to any part of the world. The complete work only is sold. We do not supply lists for single states. These Directories have been issued every two years since 1878, and have been declared indispensable by the prominent mill-furnishers, flour brokers, millers, etc., of this country and Europe. Address,

36 & 37 Loan and Trust Building.

S. H. SEAMANS, MILWAUKEE, WIS.

SEND FOR CIRCULAR, GIVING SCOPE OF THE WORK AND NAMES OF MANY PROMINENT FIRMS USING IT, IN AMERICA AND FOREIGN COUNTRIES.

Exporting Millers -



SEND FOR
COPY
OF THE
NEW
EDITION
OF THE

Riverside

Cable Code

More copies of this work are in actual use to-day than of all other Flour Cable Codes combined.

PRICE OF SINGLE COPY, \$3.00

A PROPER DISCOUNT WILL BE MADE TO PARTIES ORDERING ONE DOZEN OR MORE COPIES.

ADDRESS ALL ORDERS TO

**RIVERSIDE
PRINTING COMPANY,**
MILWAUKEE, WIS., U. S. A.

MANUFACTURING SITES FOR SALE!

THE undersigned owns a few of the best manufacturing sites in the city of Milwaukee, adjoining those now occupied by the Milwaukee Car Wheel and Foundry Co. and the magnificent plant of the Fuller-Warren Stove Works, which cover nearly ten acres of ground. Best of railroad facilities. Parties desiring a suitable location should investigate this. Address,

E. HARRISON CAWKER,

36 & 37 LOAN & TRUST BLDG.

MILWAUKEE, WIS.

ORGANIZATION OF MILLERS IN THE UNITED STATES.

THE MILLERS' NATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

President—A. R. JAMES,	Buffalo, N. Y.
1st Vice-President—H. L. HALLIDAY,	Calro, Ill.
2d Vice-President—L. C. PORTER,	Winona, Minn.
Treasurer—S. H. SEAMANS,	Milwaukee, Wis.
Secretary—FRANK BARRY,	Milwaukee, Wis.
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M. S. Blish, Seymour,	INDIANA
C. R. Underwood, Salina,	KANSAS
P. H. Macgill, Baltimore,	MARYLAND
*W. B. Knickerbocker, Albion,	MICHIGAN
*Charles J. Martin, Minneapolis,	MINNESOTA
George H. Plant, St. Louis,	MISSOURI
C. C. White, Crete,	NEBRASKA
*Geo. Urban, Buffalo,	NEW YORK
Jno. M. Turner, Mandan,	N. DAKOTA
Homer Baldwin, Youngstown,	OHIO
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W. H. Stokes, Watertown,	S. DAKOTA
*Wm. Sanderson (chairman), Milwaukee,	WISCONSIN
*Members of Executive Committee.	
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President, F. E. C. Hawkes, Goshen,	
Secretary, E. E. Perry, Indianapolis,	
President, B. Warkentin, Newton,	
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Secretary, L. Levan, Lancaster,	
President, L. G. Beynon, Brookings,	
Secretary, C. A. Lum, Aberdeen,	
President, E. J. Luchman, Neenah,	
Secretary, L. R. Hard, Milwaukee,	

Associations.

A MEETING of the executive committee of the Millers' National Association will be held in Chicago, Feb. 4th.

THE annual meeting of the Millers' National Insurance Company will be held at the office of the company, in Chicago, on the third Wednesday, the 20th of January, at which time three directors will be elected to take the place of the same number whose terms of office will expire.

MICHIGAN MILLERS.

HAVING received an urgent invitation from President Knickerbocker, of the Michigan Millers' Association, to attend their annual meeting at Lansing, we concluded to do so although it might delay the appearance of the Miller for a day or two beyond the regular day of publication.

Having on a previous occasion—we think it was in '78—met with the Michigan millers, and having the impression then received indelibly impressed upon our memory, we were not prepared for the radical change that has taken place in the personnel of that association. On the previous occasion the proverbial white hat and sheep's gray suit, which was fashionable with the old style miller and which he deemed necessary to represent the dignity of his calling, were decidedly in the majority. On the present occasion, however, the trade mark of "ye ancient miller" was not visible. The representatives were mostly young men, wide awake and progressive in their ideas, and ready to adopt any improvement or method which would in any way add to the success and profit of their business.

The meeting was called to order by President Knickerbocker. The roll call showed

the following firms represented by one or more members:

Walsh-DeRoo Milling Co., Holland; J. Jenks & Co., Sand Beach; F. Thoman & Bro., Lansing; Newman & Rice, Portland; E. Kutan & Co., Belding; C. G. A. Voigt & Co., Grand Rapids; Valley City Milling Co., Grand Rapids; Titus & Hicks, Battle Creek; Ithaca Milling Co., Ithaca; A. W. Wright, Alma; C. B. Chatfield & Co., Bay City; Merrill Milling Co., Merrill; O. D. Chapman, Cheesaning; Hart, Clark & Co., Flushing; Hiram Ovenshire, Bellevue; Wright Milling Co., Shepherd; Muskegon Milling Co., Muskegon; R. J. Hamilton, White Pigeon; E. A. Pomroy & Son, Jonesville; Benton Harbor Milling Co., Benton Harbor; Albion Milling Co., Albion; Colby Milling Co., Dowagiac; Allmendinger & Schneider, Ann Arbor; W. J. Pollard & Co., Allegan; T. D. French & Son, Middleville; L. Emery, Jr., Three Rivers; Thread Flouring Mills Co., Flint; A. D. Hughes & Co., Irving; Eldred Milling Co., Jackson; F. W. Stock, Hillsdale; Hale Bros., Lyons; O. D. Chester, Camden; L. M. Trowbridge, Hixon & Hixon, O. B. Crane, Hait Milling Co.

The annual address of the president was replete with pertinent suggestions for the good of the association; and was listened to with marked attention.

The secretary's report was then read, as follows:

RECEIPTS.	
Balance on Hand January 8th, 1901.....	\$185 50
Received for honorary membership.....	65 00
Received from annual dues.....	608 00
Received from July assessment.....	595 00
Total receipts.....	\$1,358 50
DISBURSEMENTS.	
Secretary's salary for the year.....	\$1,000 00
Postage.....	110 00
Printing.....	100 00
Mimograph and office supplies.....	40 55
Office furniture.....	31 70
Expenses of the President	24 70
Secretary's expenses last annual meeting.....	38 50
Secretary's expenses Albion (sack deal).....	2 20
Secretary's expenses Flint (World's Fair).....	2 48
Secretary's expenses Detroit (Ins. Com's).....	5 85
Exchange and express.....	19 08
Rent of furniture and gas fixtures, last annual meeting.....	7 00
Telegraph and Telephone.....	3 97
Expenses F. Thoman to Grand Rapids, Grain Committee.....	9 80
Total disbursements.....	\$1,507 50
Balance in Treasury.....	\$80 97
Office furniture as per inventory.....	51 70
Total resources of Association.....	\$932 97

The membership showing a net gain of twelve members, in addition to which two firms were received into membership after the report was rendered, making a total of eighty-two active members, and a capacity of over thirteen thousand barrels every twenty-four hours.

The secretary, in his report, submitted several recommendations, which, in substance, were as follows:

First—That millers in Ohio, Indiana and Illinois be admitted to honorary membership upon the payment of an annual fee of \$10.00; this to entitle them to such information as is furnished regular members regarding unsatisfactory or "tricky" flour buyers.

Second—An appeal to the legislature to enact a statute making telegraph companies liable for damages through errors in, or for non-delivery of ordinary or unreported messages.

Third—Reducing the membership fee of honorary members from \$10 to \$5 per annum. [Note.—Honorary members in this case are mill machinery men and bag dealers.]

Fourth—That the president of the association should, in the future at least, be allowed his membership free.

All these recommendations were acted upon favorably.

At this point an adjournment was taken to four o'clock p. m., in order that the policy-holders in the Michigan Millers' Insurance Company might in the interim have an opportunity to attend the annual meeting of the company called for that hour.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Meeting was called to order promptly at 4 o'clock. The first paper on the programme, entitled "Yields and Purification in the Manufacture of Flour," was read by Mr. George H. Doane, of Alma. The subject of yields brought up an animated discussion, the taking of a yield every twenty-four hours without weighing the wheat being quite novel to a large number of the members present. [Note.—In this connection we would refer our readers to the article in this issue entitled "A Well Managed Mill," written prior to the meeting of the Michigan millers, which gives a more extended practice than that laid down by Mr. Doane.] The millers adopting Mr. Doane's suggestions will be surprised at their utility, and instead of groping in the dark as to running their mills, will know daily whether a profit or loss is being made, and manage accordingly.

Mr. Doane, in his paper on the "Purification of Middlings and Flour," advances the idea that milling methods will be entirely revolutionized in the near future by the introduction of the air blast purifier, by the use of which he believes it possible to so purify the material that at least 85 per cent. of the flour made will equal the best patent turned out by the same mills as at present operated.

The evening session convened at seven o'clock, and was devoted to the discussion of Michigan's flour exhibit to the World's Columbian Exposition in Chicago. The Hon. E. H. Belden and Mark W. Stevens, member and secretary of the board of World's Fair managers for Michigan, each gave an interesting account in detail regarding the advantage of a full and complete exhibit of Michigan's cereals and their products, showing the advantage to be gained by the millers making such an exhibit, and in short all the details necessary for promoting the same. The only matter settled in connection therewith was the railroad rates, which are to be a single rate to Chicago with a free rate on all products returned.

The early evening having been used up in the discussion of this matter, the meeting adjourned to meet at the banquetting hall a little later for social enjoyment, and to nine o'clock Thursday morning to finish the business of the association.

At about half past ten the dining room doors of the Hotel Downey were swung open and a magnificent spread greeted the eye. First the millers having their wives with them marched into the room and were given a position of honor at a table located, as it were, in a hollow square. About two hundred sat down to the feast and enjoyed the good things placed before them. This novel feature in the meetings of millers' associations might be adopted with benefit to all such gatherings, the social feature aiding much to round off the sharp edges and smooth the rough corners of milling competition, and make the disgruntled miller, if any there were, feel that his brother miller was not as bad as his imagination had painted him. Mr. Colby, of the Colby Milling Co., Dowagiac, acted as toast master, and right well he filled the position, keeping the guests in high humor with his numerous anecdotes, which always fitted the subject presented.

The Mill Stone and THE UNITED STATES MILLER were the only milling journals represented at the feast or the meeting, and had their full share of enjoyment out of it.

The Lansing Glee Club, a quartette, rendered some very choice selections "that brought down the house," and the repeated encores they received but faintly expressed the pleasure the millers had derived from this part of the entertainment. The ladies retiring, the banquet, like many other ventures of millers, went out in smoke.

THURSDAY MORNING.

The meeting was called to order by the president. After the reading of communications the advisability of the association taking some action, as such, regarding the disposition of their surplus flour was brought up for discussion. Many schemes were presented. It was finally decided that the secretary write the secretary of the North Dakota Millers Association in order to glean from him all the information he could regarding their experience in disposing of their surplus flour in Europe, and a resolution to that effect was unanimously adopted.

The Washburn Option Bill was brought before the meeting and discussed pro and con, there seeming to be a great diversity of opinion among the millers themselves as to the advisability of congress passing such a measure. A final conclusion was reached by the adoption of the following resolution: Resolved, That we favor legislation that will eliminate and prohibit, if possible, the gambling feature of option dealing, and if the Washburn bill can be so amended as to do this without interfering with legitimate commercial relations, we favor it.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS.

On motion of Mr. C. G. A. Voigt, of Grand Rapids, the secretary was instructed to cast by ballot for the re-election of the old board, which was unanimously adopted and the vote, cast. The meeting then adjourned, every member feeling satisfied that he had had a most interesting, enjoyable and instructive time. And to the representative of THE MILLER it was one of those occasions that will long be remembered, for it is seldom in these days that a state association of millers can be brought together with the one object in view, viz: to be on hand promptly when the meeting

is called "at every" session, and give the business for which they are called together the time and attention it deserves.

The officers have been untiring in their efforts to promote the association's welfare, and are entitled to great credit for the work which has been accomplished. Eighty members out of a possible hundred and twenty in the entire state, of fifty barrels capacity and over, brought into the fold of membership can not be accomplished without some very energetic work being done.

A FLOUR MILL SYNDICATE.

The Plan of Operation and Purpose—An English Company to Take All the Mills and Better Them.

From Tribune of Salt Lake City, Dec. 11th.

The English syndicate represented by Theodore Bruback, president of the San Pete Valley Railroad, has secured an option on all the flour mills in this Territory and southeastern Idaho, and Mr. Bruback leaves this city on the 15th instant for New York, whence he will sail for London in January to arrange for the closing up of the deal. The sum to be paid for the properties will aggregate \$1,000,000, and when they are handed over to the syndicate, another million of dollars will be expended in refitting these mills with the latest improved machinery, and in erecting new mills in the middle of the wheat-producing parts of the Territory, in building elevators in Cache, Ogden, Salt Lake City and San Pete. The new mills will have the capacity of 1,000 barrels each, and by being built in the midst of the grain sections will be the better able to handle all the grain raised for a long distance around. It is the intention of the management to mill all the wheat grown in this Territory. Heretofore from one and a half to two million bushels of wheat have been shipped out of Utah to be milled in other places, but this will be stopped under the new arrangement, and more work given to our people and more plant utilized. The present output of the mills in the Territory and southeastern Idaho is estimated at 300,000 barrels per year. This the syndicate will increase to 600,000 per year, and it is proposed to monopolize the production of flour in this inter-mountain country. The new company is to incorporate in England with a capital of \$2,000,000, and when the consolidation has been effected, it is claimed a marvelous change for the better will be apparent at once. It is reported that the church authorities were at first opposed to the change, and stopped proceedings for a few days, but the matter was explained to them so that they saw it was going to result in the good of all concerned, and Brother George Q. withdrew his objections. So after next spring the Colorado millers will no longer have a

chance to grind Utah flour, and that process will be done in this Territory.

A RYE FLOUR TRUST.

It is reported that the Millers of Albany, N. Y., have formed a Rye Flour Trust, on the strength of the large shortage of this cereal in foreign countries, estimated at 300,000,000 bushels. Judging from some samples shown us lately, our own crop of Rye might all be exported, and still the country not suffer for want of rye bread.

SUNDRY NOTES.

We are indebted to Mr. T. C. Friedlander, of San Francisco, for the twenty-fourth annual report of the Produce Exchange of that city.

We have received Messrs. Huntley, Cranson & Hammond's elaborate calendar for 1892, and those gentlemen write that they would be pleased to mail one to any person desiring it.

WANTED.

An important flour importing house in the East of Scotland wishes to open business relations on usual documentary c. i. f. terms, with a Milwaukee miller of good standing. References at disposal. Apply editor UNITED STATES MILLER, 36 Loan and Trust Bld'g, Milwaukee, Wis.

We have a force at work compiling "Cawker's Flour Mill and Elevator Directory," to be issued about the fifteenth of March. We desire that every flouring mill, oil mill, or grain elevator shall be recorded; and to that end will be pleased to receive from our readers any information regarding changes in firm names, mills or elevators, or the re-modelling of old plants, or any changes in the motive power, giving capacity of mills in twenty four hours; process used, if water or steam power or both; total capacity of elevator, power used; in short any information furnished that will aid in making this work perfect as possible will be duly appreciated.

ELEVATOR ITEMS.

GALVESTON, Tex.—The Galveston Wharf Company will erect another grain elevator here of 300,000 bushels capacity.

DALLAS, Tex.—The Lone Star Elevator Company, capital \$250,000, has been incorporated. Jacob Ranch and others are the directors.

JAY GOULD is reported to have asked for bids for the erection of a grain elevator at New Orleans, the capacity to be 1,000,000 bushels.

ANOTHER large elevator, grain warehouse and storing premises is being built by Wilhoite & Streeter at Chattanooga, Tenn. It will be furnished completely with new machinery, and be one of the most capacious in the country.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn.—G. Overend of Cincinnati, O., has purchased the plant of the Chattanooga Elevator Company, which he will enlarge.

SPLENDID WORK

THE RICHMOND

Grain Cleaning Machinery

* AND DUSTERS. *

EAGLE MILLING COMPANY.

SPARTA, ILL., December 2d, 1891.

THE RICHMOND MFG. CO., Lockport, N. Y.

DEAR SIR:—Enclosed please find check No. 6779, on American Exchange National Bank, N. Y., to cover amount of bill also enclosed.

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Insurance.

AS will be seen by a notice elsewhere, the annual meeting of Millers' National Insurance Company will be held at the office of the company on the twenty-first inst. and should be attended by every miller in person having a policy in the company, if possible for him to do so. The millers of the country have too much at stake to allow this or any other millers mutual to be run by proxy.

There are a number of points of importance of which policy-holders in this company ought to be, but do not seem to be, fully advised.

First—As to the facts concerning the report that has prevailed for years regarding the existence of stockownership controlling the charter of the company.

Second—What becomes of the commissions derived from placing surplus lines with other companies, which business has been done heretofore in the name of the assistant secretary, H. B. Horton?

Third—The necessity for carrying a surplus cash fund of nearly \$300,000 more than the statutes of Illinois require of any mutual company; and why a part of this extra ordinary surplus is not returned to policy holders?

Fourth—Why so large a proportion of the directory is selected from the office force of the company to the exclusion of prominent millers carrying heavy insurance in the company?

Fifth—Why, as a matter of policy—to say nothing of justice—the setting aside of \$200,000 of the cash surplus of the company to do a general insurance business outside of flouring mills, was not submitted to the policy-holders, owners of this surplus, for their approval?

Sixth—If two hundred or more selected risks are secured of either fifteen or twenty thousand dollars each, why can they not be written by this company with profit and safety, and at the same time furnish policy-holders with double the indemnity they can now get?

Seventh—Would it not be for the interest of policy-holders to make the annual meeting a general re-union of millers, a social as well as a business meeting, same as other large corporations are now doing very generally?

Eighth—We would most earnestly call the attention of policy-holders of Section 2, Article XII, of the by-laws, as to the disposition of the permanent fund of the company, and which reads as follows:

"Section 2. Said permanent fund shall belong to this company; it shall not be divided to or among

the members thereof, nor shall any member ever be entitled to demand or receive any portion thereof, except in payment of losses, nor shall any person after ceasing to be a policy-holder of this company be entitled to have or receive any portion thereof, as dividends or otherwise, while this company continues to transact business."

In view of the above section it might be pertinent for the policy holders to enquire, what is to prevent an arbitrary cancellation of their policies and the surplus used to run the company on the stock plan, with but a limited number of mutual policy-holders—be they ever so few—owning the new company. As one policy-holder remarked in our presence? "May I be inside the ring when the time for 'divy' comes."

All the foregoing queries and others have been submitted to us at various times by policy holders in this company, and our reply has invariably been, that the proper way to secure the desired information and regulate the conduct of the management, is for members to attend the annual meetings.

We refer to this matter particularly at this time on account of the annual meeting being near at hand. We have no axe to grind. Our relations with the management have always been and are of the most friendly nature. We believe Mr. Barnum's position as manager of the company is perfectly secure so long as he cares to occupy it, and it would seem unnecessary for him to longer hedge himself round about with his employees as directors and members of the executive committee to the exclusion of men who have a greater interest, and who have been the means of making it possible for the company to reach the high position it now occupies.

Much alarm is felt in English shipping and commercial circles because of the resignation of the underwriters at Lloyds. Three more gentlemen engaged in the marine insurance business have concluded to withdraw, as their losses have been very heavy. This makes a total of seventeen underwriters who have withdrawn from the society of Lloyds within a few weeks, and the effects upon ship owners and shippers is not at all reassuring. The extent of the business done at Lloyds may be imagined when it is stated that the value annually insured amounts to more than \$200,000,000.

WHAT ARE JUMBO LINES.

Opinions differ very materially upon this question. Underwriters of ability, however, generally concede that "Jumbo lines," like all other theories of insurance, are merely a condition of average.

A company with \$100,000

capital starting out to write \$20,000 lines, assuming the risk of a \$20,000 loss on the first policy written, and taking the chances before securing a sufficient number of risks to make a fair average, would be guilty of very hazardous underwriting, and to which "Jumbo lines" would properly apply. But the same company having a sufficient number of risks on its books, and assuming liability only when the income will pay a reasonable percentage over and above the maximum losses and expenses for any one year, can safely write \$20,000 policies and not be considered a "Jumbo."

FIRES.

Jones Co.'s flour mill at Conshohocken, Pa., burned.

J. F. Smith Son's mill at Glen Springs, S. C. burned.

Fire destroyed J. R. Knight's grist mill at Pleasant Hill S. C.

On Dec. 8 a flour mill burned at Beverly, Mass. Loss \$20,000.

M. P. Williams' grist mill at Montgomery, Ala., burned recently.

The grist mill of J. M. Sanders at Malahalla, S. C., was destroyed by fire.

Manley & Thompson's grist mill at Griffin, Ga., burned recently. Loss \$6,000.

T. Tone's grist mill at Rockford, Ont., burned recently. Loss \$5,000; insurance \$2,000.

The mill at Lodi, Cal., owned by C. H. Corson, burned Dec. 14. Loss \$15,000; insurance \$5,000.

The "Dominion Mills," London, Ont., were damaged by fire to the amount of \$500 on Dec. 8th. Fully covered by insurance.

The grist mill at Hague, N. Y., conducted by Geo. Taft and owned by Bernard Clifton, was entirely destroyed, together with its contents, Dec. 31.

The mill and elevator at New Rockford, N. D., owned by Chas. Hutchins, of Des Moines, Ia., were burned January 2. Valued at \$15,000 with insurance for \$7,000. The managers Owen & Perra lose about \$5,000 with no insurance.

The steam grist mill at Fairmont, Minn., owned by Livegood & Swearing, was burned recently, together with \$2,000 worth of flour. Loss \$15,000, with but \$2,000 insurance. The firm will rebuild at once on a larger scale than before.

The flour mill of W. L. Kidder & Co. was damaged by the fire that destroyed the linseed oil factory of Kidder & Co. The two mills occupied the same building but were separated by a fire wall. The firm sustained a heavy loss and were lightly insured.

Hastings & Diment's 250-bbl. mill at Owatonna, Minn., was entirely destroyed by fire on Dec. 1, together with 700 bushels of wheat, three carloads of flour and two carloads of feed. The loss (over \$35,000) is total as the firm's policy had expired and had not been renewed. The mill will be rebuilt at once.

MONGIN & Co.'s, large brick flour mill and its contents were destroyed by fire on the night of Dec. 31. The White Mill near by was on fire several times and was only saved by a deluge of water. The insurance on the mill and machinery was \$25,000, and on the stock \$18,000. The loss is very heavy.

DON'T.

Don't forget to close your iron shutters at night.

Don't allow steam pipes to be in contact with wood or inflammable material.

Don't allow any electric lights or wire on your premises which are not properly protected.

Don't fail to have your fire buckets filled, and test hose and fire appliances from time to time.

Don't allow any kerosene oil lamps to be filled after dark. Filling lamps near a fire is dangerous.

Don't allow ashes to be put in a wooden box or barrel in your building. Always have an iron ash can.

Don't allow benzine, gasoline, naphtha, or explosives in your place. Your insurance policy prohibits it.

Don't allow sawdust to be used for catching oil drippings from machines or elevator gearing. Sand is safe.

Don't fail to have your elevators or hoist-ways provided with good trap-doors or hatches, and have these shut at night.

Don't allow sawdust to be used on floors or in spittoons. It causes many fires, ignited by cigar stumps or cigarettes.

Don't forget to keep the lamps filled and wicks in good order. When the oil is low it generates gas which is liable to explode.

Don't allow matches to be kept loose or in paper boxes, but only in metal or earthen safes. Those lighting only on the flux are safest.

Don't forget that neglect and carelessness are the cause of more fires than all other things, and enforce rules to guard against them.

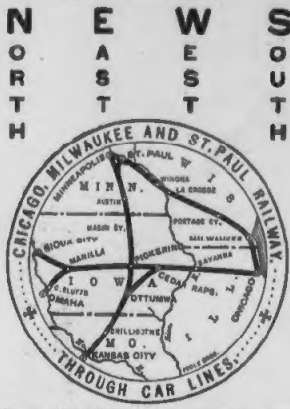
Don't allow your stairs or hallways to be blocked up or used for "storage" or other rubbish, hay, straw, etc., to accumulate or remain on your premises.

Don't allow any oily waste or rags to be thrown on the floor, but only in a metal can, with cover, and have them taken out of the building every night; they are self-igniting.

Don't allow any loose-jointed gas brackets on your premises which could be swung against woodwork, or any gas brackets without wire screens or globes, if hay, straw, light materials or window curtains are near them.

Don't allow greasy or oily rags or papers to be mixed up with clean clippings or a larger amount of clippings to remain in your place (even if clean and in bales) than is absolutely unavoidable.

Don't allow stoves or heaters on your premises which are not securely set on stone, cemented brick or metal, and be sure that all wood-work near the stoves or pipes is carefully protected with metal.



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[The following letters are all from our own special correspondents, and reflect their views and the views of the trade in the location from which they write.]

OUR NEW YORK LETTER.

The Situation of the Breadstuffs Market—Local Milling Notes—A Successful Bid for the West India Trade—Washburn's Option Bill Views of New York Millers and of C. A. Pillsbury on the Option Bill, Etc.

THERE has been recently a ripple on the stagnant surface on the breadstuffs market during the past month. The holiday inactivity, that began a month earlier than usual, in November, now promises to continue into the second month of the new year. The "January boom," as usual, has therefore been postponed by the bulls, who were loaded for it, before the old year went out. Since then their chief occupation has been unloading, and hence the depression that has characterized the whole grain pit since the new year. There have been one or two days of activity and strength, when the bears had become too bold and crowded the markets too painfully. But the reaction was only temporary, as there has been no foreign support in spot or future wheat, as spot supplies on the other side have been in excess of general demand, while speculation for a future advance has nearly ended, both there and here.

It is not that there is no confidence in the future of values. There is plenty of faith, but too little work. Foreign houses have sold more future wheat here in the last month than they have bought. While they have bought very little spot wheat, except low grade Winter and frosted Spring for mixing purposes, with the graded Spring and Winter they have been shipping an old contracts made two and three months ago. So much for wheat. Corn has, however, been in steady and liberal export demand all the month, stimulated by lower ocean freights, until recently the latter have rallied under the heavy engagements for corn chiefly, running into May.

But flour has suffered more than wheat by dullness, as it cannot be speculated in for the future, when it can not be sold on the spot like wheat. There were a couple of days of activity since the new year, when both home trade and exporters bought more freely. At the time wheat advanced in the covering of the oversold shorts, on the belief that the other side was coming in again, and that we had reached the lowest prices for both on this crop. But as soon as this short interest was out, the support of both markets was gone, and they reacted together. Since then holders of flour have ac-

cepted lower prices than before on this crop in order to move some flour that had been on the railroad docks until they had to be sold or stored. Under this pressure standard winter patents sold at \$5.10@5.15; fancy at \$5.15@5.25, and country brands at \$4.90@5.00; Spring bakers' at \$4.50@4.70 in barrels and \$4.15@4.25 in sacks; Winter patents at \$4.85@5.10; straight do. at \$4.65@4.75; clear do. at \$4.25@4.60, and not do. at \$3.75@3.90 in sacks and \$4.00@4.20 in barrels, while all lower grades of both Spring and Winters as well, have been 10@15c. off prices of a month ago. Yet Mr. Pillsbury, who has been here the past week on his way to Florida, tells me that he is selling all the patents, except his best, and all the bakers' extras he can make for a month ahead, direct to the other side for more money than he can get in this market, having sold 25,000 sacks of patent last week at 31s. @ 31s. 6d. c. i. f. to the United Kingdom.

Our city mills, however, have had a more lively market since the new year came in, for, after being in peace for the first half of this crop year at uniform and almost unchanged price of \$5.25 for their West India clear flours, they opened the new year with a little unpleasantness in the hitherto happy family, when Hecker and Jewell quietly filled up every West India market, for a month to come at \$5.00 before their neighbors found it out, and then severely held at \$5.10, and let their competitors have what was left. In this way they placed over 75,000 barrels in three days. But hereby hangs a tale; about a month ago Jones was accused of breaking the hitherto uniform price of \$5.25 without first notifying the other members of the family, who have since been "laying for him" to reciprocate. Hence the popularity of the new doctrine of reciprocity has been again illustrated in our internal as well as external commercial relations.

The rye flour millers of this state, Pennsylvania and New Jersey have also been doing themselves proud by gathering together in this city last week to make a "combine" to restrict production and fix prices of their product. The result was that 60 per cent. of the production of these states "agreed" to send no rye flour to this market at less than \$5.25 for stone and \$5.35 for roller-made flour. Hereby also hangs another tale. Some of the larger millers, especially in this state, and particularly at each end of the Erie canal, bought rye on the boom last fall to secure a year's supply before it was all shipped to Germany after the Russian export prohibition. Since then rye has been a drug

at 15@20c. per bushel less, while the consumption of rye flour at over the price of the best Spring patents has fallen off. Hence these tears, and this combine to dry them through restricting consumption of rye flour in order to bull rye is a doubtful experiment.

Mill feed has finally eased off from 90c. to 80c. per 100 pounds since corn has declined under the free movement of the new crop, and lower prices for corn meal, of which the consumption had been restricted on the high-priced old crop.

There is a good deal of interest here in the bill introduced by Senator Washburn in congress prohibiting option trading in grain, although it is laughed at by the wheat pit crowd as a Don Quixote attempt to fight wind mills that will do the mills less damage than the man who dares attack them. Not so, however, in the milling interest, although it is divided in its opinion, as will be seen here by the following interviews among our city millers:

Mr. George S. Jewell, secretary of the Jewell Milling Co., said he was opposed to the bill as it was introduced, for it prohibits all sales for forward delivery for legitimate as well as speculative purposes, and therefore prevents the millers of the country from making contracts ahead for flour, in which form their sales are now chiefly made, so far as the merchant mills are concerned, for it would prevent them from buying wheat for future delivery to fill their sales of flour. Under the option system now in use throughout this country the mills can sell flour for any delivery to suit their customers for any grade of flour, and immediately cover the sales by purchases of any grade of wheat in any market, to arrive at any time desired, without any risk of future fluctuations in the market, to which they were subjected before the adoption of the option system of trading in wheat, by which they are now enabled to insure themselves against loss not only, but also to insure their manufacturers' profits.

Still, said Mr. Jewell, if the bill could be so framed as to eliminate the gambling business and allow sales for bona fide future delivery for milling or export, it would be a great benefit to the milling interest by relieving the wheat and flour markets from the unsettling effects of artificial influences and manipulation by speculators which are detrimental to all legitimate business and the entire flour trade. This, said he, might be accomplished by making all sales, like those of the Stock and Petroleum exchanges, for spot de-

livery, and then short sellers would have to buy the actual wheat from the owner, at the close of business each day, and deliver it which would prevent the sale of more than the stock in store at any point.

Mr. C. G. Moller, president of the Kings County Milling Co., said, "I am and always have been opposed to the whole option system where sales and rules of the trade are made for the gamblers and against legitimate dealers. Millers are compelled, under it, to take the bottom of the grade, after being mixed down by the carriers, whenever they buy on the spot or to arrive, as they are obliged for the most part to take graded wheat; whereas formerly the wheat came here from the west unmixed and millers could select such as they wanted from the samples offered here on the spot or to arrive here or at Buffalo as a hedge against future sales of flour, just as well as now, and as they did before the option system was introduced. Mr. Moller also said that the fluctuations in the grain markets now are much more frequent, sudden, and violent than under the old system and subjected the millers to a double risk in conducting their business, the gambling in addition to the mercantile risk, which latter would be lessened also by the abolition of the whole option system.

Mr. C. A. Pillsbury, who is now here, gave me liberty to use his name as the authority for the statement, that Senator Washburn's anti-option bill was introduced in its present form only to secure its place on the calendar and head off other bills of the same character, and that when it comes up it will be amended by its friends so as to stop the gambling trade, but not to interfere with any sales for bona fide future delivery. It is not fair, therefore, said Mr. Pillsbury to criticize the bill in its present shape. But, said he, it will go through, in some form or other, whether the millers of the country form it or not, as the countrymen are determined to wipe out the system by which the prices of their products are unnaturally and continually depressed below their true value, and, said he, they are right, for if it had not been for the option system the farmers would have received 25c per bushel more for their wheat, thus far on this crop than they have, Europe stood ready to take all they had to sell, as fast as they could deliver it.

Mr. Pillsbury further said, some such bill would enhance the price of wheat and help millers in that respect as well as relieve them from the gambling risk in conducting their business, as the milling busi-

ness is always best on high prices. As to obtaining supplies of wheat he said they could obtain them by the old methods before option trading was known, just as well as under it.

He also said he would wipe out every wheat pit in the country and go back to those old and legitimate methods to secure equitable results to millers, as the present methods undoubtedly depress values of flour and wheat beside subjecting them to the gambling risk and to manipulated markets.

Mr. Frederick Jones of Jones & Co., said he was in favor of the Washburn bill, as it was introduced, wiping out option trading in grain altogether, and the system of rules that now govern the trade with it, and return to old methods in use before the option system was ever invented, under which they could secure their supplies of wheat just as well as now and cover all sales of flour for future delivery.

He said he regarded the bill as a good one in all respects for the miller, as it would not prevent his buying all the wheat to arrive that he might want for actual use or special deliveries. He regarded the present system as no security whatever to the miller, but rather as entailing additional and unnecessary risks on him, while it constantly acted as a bear influence on the market tending to depress the price of product as well as of the raw material. In a word there was no benefit whatever to the miller in the present system, but only disadvantage, while the bill if it should become a law would benefit millers everywhere.

Mr. John V. Hecker, president of the Geo. V. Hecker Co., said he had not examined the Washburn bill sufficiently to express an opinion upon the effect its passage would have on the milling interests of the country and would not like to go record for or against it. But in a general way, he would say that if the option trade could be limited to the sales for actual delivery, he would be in favor of such a law, as it would no doubt benefit the millers. But to do away with all sales, both legitimate and speculation in future delivery would seriously interfere with selling flour ahead and covering the sales at the same time by purchases of future wheat. He would prefer the present system and rules to such a radical change. But he did not think option trading effected jobbers either way more than temporarily, and had experienced no serious disadvantages under its operations. He would therefore prefer that it should remain as it is rather than pass such a sweeping bill as he understood the Washburn bill to be.

NEW YORK, Jan. 11, 1892.

OUR BUFFALO LETTER.

Painful Accident to A. F. Wight—Rapid Handling of Grain by the Railroads Makes the Future Outlook Serious for the Canalers—Receipts and Demands for Winter Wheat—Light—New Mill at Oakfield—Machinery Furnished by The Edw. F. Allis Co.—Buffalo's Quota to the Starving Russians Arrived—1,500 Sacks of 140 Pounds Each—The Philadelphia's Wet Cargo—Nominees for Election to the Board of Trade Offices.

THE sympathy of the grain merchants of this city goes out to Mr. A. F. Wight, who amid all his troubles met with a painful accident Christmas Eve. While attempting to take a car he was struck by a car, knocked down by the pole and had his shoulder dislocated besides receiving a serious shock, from which it will take many weeks to recover.

The way the elevators disposed of their stuff is even more astonishing than the work done during the summer months. Only 3,000,000 bushels remain in store, and 370,000 afloat out of nearly 10,000,000 on Dec. 10. What show is there for the canal next year under these circumstances? Not the ghost of a chance for making a dollar, and the forwarding fraternity see it as well as the owners of canal boats. This class of floating property is offered so cheap that no one will touch it.

The whole hope is that the state will come to the aid of the canal and string electric wires along its entire length and also donate a motor to every boat. Something must be done to keep the politician in office, for what would become of the great army of democratic heelers if the canal were closed? The idea of it is enough to send a chilly sensation down the short backbone of Collector O'Neill of Buffalo. No! The canals of the state must be obtained at all hazard.

Naturally the big elevator business this year has brought out the usual number of "capitalists" always to be found chasing after a "good thing." Three new elevators are about to be contracted for, and other foolish ventures in the same line are talked up among investors. Several of our smaller-sized houses took in only a cargo or two during the whole season. The Western Elevating Association may not be in existence next year, and with the elevators running wild what a beautiful opportunity there will be for paying expenses. Buffalo is supplied with elevators when all are in commission; another one is one too many.

The receipts of winter wheat in this market are very light, but the demand is almost nothing, and prices are therefore very unsettled. Country millers say they are getting all the wheat they can handle from farmers, and at a price from 2 to 3 cents below what the same

grades can be purchased here. No. 2 red sold in this market at 99c., and No. 1 white at 98c., which will not allow a four cent freight over Detroit quotations. There are prospects, however, of an improvement in the demand for this flour in a short time.

Clint Newman reports quite an improvement in the demand for Akron mills flour. Whether this is due to the efforts of Mr. Andrews in introducing these excellent brands or not Mr. Newman refuses to say. "We are making good flour," says "Clint."

The ship canal nonsense, together with a few more wild schemes, were knocked silly at the waterways convention held at Detroit last month. The only wise course is to deepen the channels where practicable.

Messrs. Heinold & Rhodabaugh purchased 7,000 barrels and sacks of the wet flour on the propeller Philadelphia, which sank in the Detroit river. The price paid by them is claimed to have been far above the next lowest bid, and it is said by the disappointed ones that there is no money in it, on the contrary a loss is sure. Not if the firm of H. & R. knows itself, and it is conceded by all hands that it does by a large majority. If they do not come out whole the loss will be covered by a postage stamp.

The receipts by lake for the season were 128,000,000 bushels of all grains, of which the canal carried away 35,000,000, and the railroads 80,000,000. Besides this the rail took 60,000,000 barrels of flour.

The contract for building the Oakfield Milling Co.'s mill at Oakfield was given to Rathbone, of Rochester. The Edw. F. Allis Co., of Milwaukee, will furnish the machinery.

The Frye Grain Co., of Rochester, was incorporated at Albany last week. The object of this company seems to be to have an agent in every grain market in the country, who is also a stockholder, thereby securing his interest in the concern. This is a Frye idea. For the purpose probably of giving "tone" to the company Mr. George Sandrock was in some manner induced to take stock in it. It is likely that Mr. Sandrock will regret his action as his connection with it can only injure his trade with other merchants and millers in Buffalo. A Mr. John F. Dinkey, treasurer of the Buffalo, Rochester & Pittsburg railway company, is also interested. In its prospectus the company speaks as follows of the milling business of this city: "Buffalo, besides being the port through which passes all the grain shipped by water from Duluth, Milwaukee, Chicago, Toledo and Detroit, is, with its suburb, Niagara Falls, a large milling

point. Buffalo also contains five first-class flouring mills." Buffalo is proud of having five first-class mills, but has always laid claim to at least twice that number. Now, Frye, why did you —?

Buffalo millers' contribution to the Russian famine fund is 250,000 lbs. of flour. Mr. George Urban and Mr. A. R. James were the workers in collecting the money. In his letter offering Buffalo's quota towards the shipload Mr. James says in his Yankee style: "Our goods are ready. Now is the time to act, not talk. The work of relieving the starving men, women and children is the business now in hand. We take no stock in the talk about Siberia prisons. Time is precious." That is apparently the sentiment expressed by all merchants who have given the matter of the czar's cruelty to convicts, and his subjects generally, consideration. We at this distance from that great autocrat can form no idea of the means necessary to control his people. Sentimental talk is the cheapest thing on earth.

The Newhall-Chester suit has been put over for the February term. Something new will come out before this trial is settled. Chester is said to have a line of testimony in reserve which will prove damaging to the Newhall side of the case.

Sid Finn has returned from Mt. Clemens, where he went in search of a cure for rheumatism. Although not able to walk without crutches, he is making preparations for next year's canal opening. Sid was always on time.

Flour has been gradually casing off, although wheat has not dropped in proportion. The cream is off, and a smaller profit will now be taken. The price of hard Duluth has only declined 3 cents within a month, but it will get down to the figures predicted in THE UNITED STATES MILLER two months ago, viz., about 80 cents before the snow clears away. The supply of Spring wheat here is 3,500,000 bushels, or 2,000,000 bushels more than last year, when there was sufficient to supply our local millers, also the country trade, including Rochester and New York. Nothing except disaster to the Winter wheat crop will prevent the price of Spring from going much lower. The best Spring patent is now going at \$5.10@5.20, and Winter at \$4.85@5.00 for the inside. The demand has been steadily falling off, and although all the mills are grinding full time (the Urban mill night and day) it is mainly on old orders. It is about time for a general stocking up of flour.

Mr. Pillsbury was in town a week ago, and in his rambling way lead listeners to suppose

he was on the bull side of wheat. He also mentioned that the stocks of flour were never so low as this winter. We know better, and so does he, but as it pleased him to talk that way, why it filled up the gap in the conversation as well as anything else.

The stock of flour according to the agents of Northwestern mills does not exceed 30,000 barrels. It is nearer 130,000 sacks and barrels, although the shipments have been very heavy for some weeks past.

Buffalo real estate speculators are making great efforts to let the outside world know the advantages this city will gain by the Niagara Falls tunnel. Power enough is promised to run nearly every factory in Buffalo, and at a price which will force the use of it. A line of electric cars is now being run between this city and Tonawanda, a distance of ten miles, and the road is nearly completed between the latter place and Niagara Falls, which is only thirteen miles. The fare will be 25c. for the round trip of twenty-three miles next summer, giving Buffalonians cheap transportation to the most beautiful section of Western New York. Twenty miles of water front on the Niagara river! The possibilities for manufacturers along this line with the cheapest power on earth, is beyond the grasp of Buffalo capitalists. Money will flow in from outside sources to make the start. Chicago, Boston, and even Southern states are now well represented in Buffalo business enterprises, and untold amounts of hard cash are already invested in farm lands, which will soon be cut up into city lots.

The work in the tunnel is being pushed as rapidly as possible. The Soo Paper Company has purchased privileges, and many applications are under consideration.

Among the Buffalo contingent to purchase the wet flour at Detroit from the sunken propeller Philadelphia were Messrs. Rardon, Shuttleworth, Rodebaugh, Henry and his following, besides a dozen lesser lights, who make a living by selling wet flour and grain. They all had a good time. Some of the stories related by those who were not in it would blast the characters of those who were, if there is any truth in them. Mr. Rodebaugh is placed in an unenviable light by a local paper. The story published intimates that Mr. Rodebaugh while there "did not know a church in daylight," but his friends can vouch for his straight-laced temperance ideas. His old friend Alex. Mann, away up in the Northwest, knows it is a wide variation from the truth.

In this connection I would ask Mr. Mann to let his friends hear from him through THE UNITED STATES MILLER. He must have something to communicate to his brother "flour peddlers" which would be interesting.

Following are the tickets selected by the nominating committees of the Merchants' Exchange for the annual election on the 13th inst.:

PRESIDENT.
John N. Scatcherd, John N. Scatcherd.
VICE-PRESIDENT.
Horace J. Harvey, Wm. C. Newman.

TREASURER.
Clarence W. Ham, John J. Williams.

TRUSTEES FOR ONE YEAR.
Otto G. Spann, Wm. Meadows.
Millard S. Burns, Frederick Truscott.
T. Gullford Smith, Horace A. Noble.
Wm. B. Cutter, Frank L. Danforth.

TRUSTEES FOR TWO YEARS.
George H. Wolcott, Charles A. Warfield.
Fred W. Taylor, C. W. Baldy.
Robert H. Hebard, Willis C. Jarvis.
George A. Stringer, James J. H. Brown.

TRUSTEES FOR THREE YEARS.
Hy. F. Shuttleworth, Leonard Dodge.
Oliver S. Laycock, Harvey J. Hurd.
John J. McWilliams, Thos. Loomis.
Herbert P. Bissel, George Clinton.

Mr. Scatcherd is president of the Merchants' Exchange this year, and his renomination is no surprise as he has made the best presiding official the board has had almost since its organization. Untiring in his efforts to lift the Exchange out of the rut it has always run in, ever anxious to please the kickers, and pleasing both sides he has pleased them so well that his renomination was hoped for by every member of the Exchange. His next term will leave the Exchange in better condition financially, but what is more, on a business footing better than it has ever had. A radical change is needed in the secretary's room. Too much help and too little work is what that department suffers from. No life there.

Clint Newman is up for the first time. He has been a faithful servant of the Exchange for many years, and will be elected by a large majority.

The best authority in the Washburn option bill in this market is a broker who has for years managed the hedging for millers in this section of New York state.

In his opinion the passage of the bill will be nothing short of disastrous to millers, as without a market to protect themselves against purchasers of wheat their business would be hazardous at the present small profit in milling.

As to its effect on the prices of grain it will tend to lower them to the farmer, as the buyer must have a larger profit to protect himself against losses.

No change can be made from the present methods which would remedy the evils supposed to exist, as the system of doing business now is as near equitable as either party would wish, where option trading is understood.

The producer, under present methods, has the advantage of future selling if he desires, and this makes an even thing all around. BUFFALO.

Buffalo, Jan. 12, '92.

OUR ST. LOUIS LETTER.

The Washburn Option Bill—Flour and Wheat Receipts and Shipments—Exports—Market Notes—Corn—Flour Production for 1891 in St. Louis and Vicinity—Christmas Eve on 'Change—Personal Notes, Etc.

THE Washburn option bill now before congress is at present agitating the millers and grain merchants of this city. A call was made by your representative on several of the leading millers, and it was found that the bill had not been fully considered, but would, no doubt, come in for a considerable amount of discussion.

Mr. Robert Leonhardt, of the Saxony Mills, says that not being familiar with the bill he is not prepared to give his views, but if the bill favors the abolishing of option trading, then he is in favor of it.

Mr. Craft, of Bernet & Craft, flour merchants, says that he has not read the bill, but would give it his attention.

Mr. Paul Fusz, ex-president of the Merchants' Exchange and senior member of Fusz & Backer, millers, was not prepared to give his views at present, but intimated that the bill would not be of much importance in this city.

Mr. P. J. Heyer, of Heyer & Bulte, merchants, says that under Senator Washburn's definition it is probable that trading in the wheat pits would not be stopped if sections were to be liberally construed. Construed strictly it would probably close up many flour mills. Under the present method of doing business no future contract for the purchase of wheat is made which does not carry with it the full right to demand delivery. It is difficult to see how a law can be worded which will be within the provision preventing any interference with the right of contract.

Another effort is on foot to obtain the use of the Merchants' Exchange for irregular trading after hours. A petition has been circulated by Philip Schirmer asking the board of directors to allow the floor to be open to traders during the afternoon. Officers of the Exchange are of the opinion that the petition cannot be legally granted, as the attorney of the board has on previous occasions decided that it is against the rules. Many members of the Commercial Board, and among them heavy traders, state that they will not avail themselves of the privilege if the case should be granted. The general opinion is that the petition will be denied, as several of like character have been in the past.

FLOUR.

The receipt of flour for the past week 21,219 barrels against 20,125 last week, and shipments were 28,999 barrels against 29,279. The output of local mills for the week was 42,350 barrels against 41,700 last week. Several of our local mills were closed down all week, and a large majority of the tributary mills, which rely upon this market to place their output, were also shut down. A large decrease was looked for, but the output, receipts and shipments show the movement of the previous week was about maintained. The large local mills ran full time, and found little trouble in placing their products at a fair margin. The South has been a steady buyer for its immediate wants, and the East has taken more during the week than for some time past. For export there has been a good inquiry, coming almost entirely from the United Kingdom, Havana, Cuba, has also been a free buyer. The booking for the week were 100,000 sacks, about equally divided among the United Kingdom and Cuba.

Indications are that the markets will be well sustained for the coming week, as the inquiry is good, and the views of both buyer and seller are about the same on values. Quotations at present are as follows: Patents, \$4.35@4.45; extra fancy, \$4.10@4.15; fancy, \$3.80@3.90; choice, \$3.35@3.45; family, \$3.20@3.25.

WHEAT.

Grain continues to pour in, as shown by receipt of 410,871 bushels this week (only 66,393 bushels came in corresponding week last year). The week's shipment reached the good figure of 386,434 bushels, stocks now 3,054,989 bushels against 3,153,884 bushels on Saturday last. Withdrawals from elevators for week ending were 20,108 bushels for city use, 71,131 bushels for rail shipments, and 139,000 bushels via river for export.

As to the grades, all the No. 2 red that was offered was readily taken; the great bulk of it (as has been frequently remarked heretofore) is going into the hands of buyers for export account, and they got considerable of the same grade through delivery on contract besides; but the markets thereon ruled with unusual weakness, the price sinking away full 1c. per bushel by Tuesday (depressed by the break in the May option), then jumped up 1½c. Wednesday, but weakened and receded as the week progressed, closing at 1½ and 1½c. net loss.

A feature of the trade was the comparative strength exhibited by Nos. 3 and 4 Winter, the former opened sharply off, but moved up later under an urgent

milling and shipping demand, the loss being recovered by Wednesday, while softening again yesterday. There was an excellent enquiry for hard wheats, and a fair movement in Spring also. No. 2 hard ranged from 80½c. up to 81½c. early, but 80½c. best bids later, closing Saturday 80¾c. asked. No. 3 hard sold at 79½c. off to 79c. this side. No. 4 hard at 74c. down to 73c. No. 2 hard Spring sold at 80¾c. early—bid 80c. Saturday. No. 3 Spring and No. 3 hard Spring at 79c. No. 3 white Spring at 76½c. @ 77c.; rejected at 68c. this side and 66c. east side.

FUTURES.

The uninterrupted depression and weakness that prevailed at speculative grain centers, both foreign and domestic, thoroughly disheartened and disgusted the few remaining longs to such a degree that they threw their wheat overboard. To help on this distressing state of affairs, the outside people steadfastly refused to take any interest in the market; orders from the country were painfully few and far between, yet a heavy business was transacted in the favorite May options, which sold to the extent of 2,000,000 to 3,000,000 bushels daily. All this was carried on between the spreaders, who sold here and bought in Chicago or New York, and vice versa.

CORN.

There were received during the week 1,463,290 bushels (only 220,600 bushels were entered same week last year) and 1,149,117 were shipped out; the stock is now 333,636 bushels against 509,899 bushels on Saturday last. Withdrawals from elevators for week ending Saturday were 23,733 bushels for city consumption and 154,797 bushels for rail shipments, but none out via rivers. Grades—As only a small part of the posted receipts stopped here the offerings on the open market were so light as to leave the actual wants only partly supplied, and nearly all the corn that was put on sale was No. 2, which sold readily, to shippers and exporters mainly; several round export lots being quoted at from 37c. this side and 37¼c. @ 37½c. east side, and a few cars each day going to local and order buyers.

The Merchants' Exchange, and particularly the committee on river improvements, is very anxious to see Congressman Seth Cobb placed on the river and harbor committee. He has been enthusiastic for improvements for years, and thoroughly understands the need of the Mississippi. If the Exchange can accomplish what it wants Mr. Cobb will be assigned to that committee.

It was asserted on 'Change

that only one trader in the St. Louis grain pit was really short on wheat, the balance being either even or long a fiver or so.

ST. LOUIS FLOUR PRODUCT.

The following statement shows the amount of flour manufactured in St. Louis during 1891.

OWNERS	NAME OF MILL	BBL'S.
Kehler Bros.	Kehler	207,791
E. O. Stannard & Co.	Ende Steam	225,148
Geo. P. Plant & Co.	Plant Roller	213,771
Regina Flour Mill Co.	Regina	174,065
Camp Springs Mill Co.	Camp Springs	166,301
Victoria Flour M. Co.	Victoria	160,490
Saxony Milling Co.	Saxony	119,273
Sessinghaus & Co.	Jefferson	107,139
Hazel Milling Co.	East St. Louis	87,224
H.B. Eggers & Co.	Meramec	60,461
E. Goddard & S'n	M.C. U. S. Steam	72,309
Carondelet Mfg Co.	Carondelet	30,340
Kalbfeisch Mfg Co.	St. George Roller	20,300

Total barrels manufactured '91. 1,749,190

'90. 1,871,008

*The Plant Roller Mill burned Sept. 27.

The following table shows the amount of flour manufactured in mills outside of St. Louis, but owned by citizens of St. Louis, during 1891:

OWNERS AND PLACES	BBL'S.
Kehler Bros., Litchfield, Ill.	402,100
E. O. Stannard Mill Co., Alton, Ill.	206,547
Kaufman Mill Co., Bethalto, Ill.	195,496
Yaeger F. M. Co., Carlinville, Ill.	213,400
Crown Mill Co., Belleville, Ill.	150,000
Woodman Mill Co., Nashville, Ill.	99,254
Wing F. M. Co., Charleston, Ill.	60,000
St. Mary's Mill Co., St. Mary's, Mo.	28,549
L.W. Bushman & Sons, Lagrange, Mo.	30,000
Grand Chain Mill Co., Commerce, Mo.	35,000
Fusz & Backer, Washington, Mo.	28,000
H. B. Eggers & Co., Red Bud, Ill.	28,500

Total 1891 1,522,416

Total 1890 1,123,578

Flour Inspected 1891.—Grades 3120 barrels; not graded, 31,538; total, 42,658.

Stocks of flour:—January 1, 1892, 77,130 barrels; December 1, 1891, 50,780; January 1, 1891, 57,300.

The closing of the old year was celebrated on the Merchants' Exchange by the merchants' "Merrie Krewe." For many years past the last day of the year has been celebrated with impromptu foot-ball matches, and flying flour bags, and it was to prevent this that the "Krewe," which first made its appearance seven years ago, was revived. A number of professional jugglers, acrobats, gymnasts and dancers were introduced by ex-President Alex. H. Smith, who acted as master of ceremonies. There were a number of topical songs rendered in an excellent manner. The floor was crowded, many ladies being present, and all the performers were heartily applauded.

The election of officers of the Merchants' Exchange was about the tamest affair of its kind that has occurred for several years. There was very little interest taken, as there was practically no contest. There was only the regular ticket in the field, but a few scattering votes cast for directors. The following is the ticket:

President—Isaac M. Mason.
Vice-Presidents—William T. Anderson, Wallace Delafield.
Directors—Marcus Bernheimer, William G. Boyd, E. A. Pomeroy, William D. Orthwein, Edgar Reynolds.

Committee on Appeals—W. T. Haarstick, John A. Kalbfeisch, H. B. Bilbro, William J. Smith, W. T. Bartley, Jr., M. J. Conner, M. J. Kelly, Otto L. Teichmann, William Bull, E. S. Guegnon, J. Waller Teusdale, Henry C. Hollman.

Committee on Arbitration—Christian Bernett, Joseph N. Evans, Henry Koehler, Jr., J. F. Ryan, Chas. C. Orthwein, Albert Singer, Edward J. McGroarty, John McAllister, Baron P. Smith, L. Garvey.

NOTES.

One of the best known and most expert salesmen and pit traders on the floor is Mr. E. R. Stevens, who hereafter will be connected with the grain and flour house of Annan, Burg & Smith. We congratulate them on securing his service.

O. H. P. Rickard and E. P. Farrell, two well-known young men on 'Change, have associated themselves to do a general grain and commission business. We wish the new firm of Rickard & Farrell success.

The St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association held their annual election of officers to serve during the coming year:—President, Rolla Wells; first vice-president, L. M. Ramsey; second vice-president, Ellis Wainwright; third vice-president, Alvah Mansur; treasurer, O. B. Ewing.

W. G. Scholl, of Bernard Klotz & Co., New Orleans, and O. B. Johnston, of Johnston, Bowman & Deppen were here last week in the interest of the New Orleans cracker bakers.

FUTURE GREAT.

St. Louis, Jan. 11, '92.

FROM our latest advices from England we hear that the initial difficulties concerning the Milling Exhibition to be held at the Royal Agricultural Hall, London (Eng.), in June and July next, have been overcome, and that a large show is assured, both of British and Continental machinery. Eleven years have elapsed since the millers in the old country were aroused to the changes that were going on around them, and our country has no reason to complain of the share of business that resulted. At the present moment nine-tenths of the wheat cleaning machinery in British mills is of American construction, and there is yet a large field for dust collectors and new forms of purifiers, bolters, etc., the trade thus far being in the hands of a few prescient Americans. If our mill furnishers mean business this is the time, and they must be up and doing. John Bull is again on the move!—[COM.]

We shall from time to time issue in the insurance department of THE MILLER copies of insurance forms. It is generally understood among insurance adjusters that in case of loss a correct form of policy is half the adjustment.

A QUEER DISCOVERY.—Before Watts, the discoverer of the present mode of making shot,

had his notable dream, induced by over indulgence in stimulants, the manufacture in question was a slow, laborious, and consequently costly process. Great bars of lead had to be pounded into sheets of a thickness nearly equal to the diameter of the shots desired. These sheets had then to be cut into little cubes, placed in a revolving barrel and there rolled round until, by the constant friction the edges wore off from the little cubes and they became spheroids.

Watts had often racked his brain trying to discover some better and less costly scheme, but in vain. Finally, after spending an evening with some boon companions at the ale house, he went home, went to bed and soon fell asleep. His slumbers, however, were disturbed by unwelcome dreams, in one of which he was out again with "the boys," and as they were stumbling home it began to rain shot—beautiful globes of polished shining lead—in such numbers that he and his companions had to seek shelter.

In the morning Watts remembered his curious dream, and it obtruded itself on his mind all day. He began to wonder what shape molten lead would assume in falling through the air, and finally, to set his mind at rest, he ascended to the top of the steeple of St. Mary at Redcliff, and dropped slowly and regularly a ladleful of molten lead into the moat below. Descending he took from the bottom of the shallow pool several handfuls of the most perfect shot he had ever seen. Watt's fortune was made, for from this exploit emanated the idea of the shot tower, which ever since has been the only means employed in the manufacture of the little missiles so important to war and sport.—School and Home.

We present in this issue a form which is adapted to the use of large mills where many policies are issued. One very desirable feature in this form is the fact that there is a minimum chance for error in making up the apportionment for different sized policies. A form to be binding must be completely specific or general. When made specific and an omission occurs you are bound by the contract to the items specified and no others. Insurance companies, while they mean to be just, are seldom generous.

WILLIAM BLACK's new story, "The Magic Ink," will be published serially in Harpers' Bazar. The first instalment will appear in the issue of January 9th, and it will run through about four numbers.



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[Entered at the Post-Office at Milwaukee, Wis., as mail matter of the second class.]

MILWAUKEE, JANUARY, 1892.

We respectfully request our readers when they write to persons or firms advertising in this paper, to mention that their advertisement was seen in the UNITED STATES MILLER. You will thereby oblige not only this paper, but the advertisers.

Editorial.

MILLERS' NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY.

OUR reference to this company in November issue of the MILLER brought a letter purporting to be from Mr. Barnum, from which we extract the following. Referring to the article he says: "It so combines facts, fancy, and fiction that it makes very interesting reading. Anything that will keep the public talking about us inures to our advantage. All persons having any right to know anything in regard to our affairs can always obtain desired information by direct application to our office; and it will be much more reliable and satisfactory than anything they can gather by correspondence with our policy holders, whether they be old or new ones."

Believing it would be much more interesting to himself as well as to our readers that whatever the "facts, fancy, or fiction" might be, published by us, should be "by the card," we addressed him as follows:

Milwaukee, Wis., Nov. 30, '91.
 W. L. BARNUM, Sec'y,
 Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir—I have your favor of the 29th inst. without signature, enclosing subscription for the UNITED STATES MILLER. Please find receipt enclosed herewith.

You may not be aware of the fact, but it is never the less a fact, that reports among policy holders of the Millers' National Ins. Co. are very frequent regarding the status of that company. It seems to be the gen-

eral opinion that there is an issue of stock in the old Fidelity owned by yourself and others, which, in the event of the winding up of the company, would control its affairs. How this can be in view of the charter and by-laws of the company as published, I am unable to understand. Since the issue of the MILLER I have other letters which refer to this matter, as to their understanding, which is similar to that in the letter published.

Are you willing to furnish us for the policy holders, readers of the UNITED STATES MILLER, answers to the following queries?

1st, Is there or is there not a stock interest in the old Fidelity or any other company which controls in a measure, any ownership, great or small, in the Millers' National Ins. Co.?

2d, Is it in your opinion advisable, or for the interest of present policy holders to increase the line now carried by the company from \$10,000 to either \$15,000 or \$20,000? If not advisable, your reasons therefor.

3d, Is it necessary for the company to continue piling up cash assets far in excess of the requirements of the Illinois statutes, which would require less than \$100,000 in addition to the notes carried by the company, which, according to your July statement, now amount to \$1,231,618.68 net?

4th, Will you please give us the names of the present directors of the company, their residence, business, and what ownership or interest they have in mills or milling?

You may say that not being a policy holder, we have no right to this information, nor are we entitled to any consideration when we seek this information for our readers. This we admit, and it is your province to furnish the information or not, as you see fit.

We have no desire to criticise unjustly the manner in which the company is handled, but there has evidently been cause for criticism in the "close corporation" manner in which officers and directors have been elected. We appreciate fully the fact that the ordinary insurer has but a slight understanding of the principles of underwriting, but the business management ought to be perfectly plain to every man having an average business education.

Awaiting your reply I remain,
 Yours truly,

S. H. SEAMANS.

To this communication we have received no reply. We have received a number of letters on the subject, referring, however, more particularly to the dictatorship exercised in its management. Policy holders have little or no

voice by reason of the fact that their rights have been waived until their proxies are revoked.

One correspondent writes: "We sent proxy filled out to W. L. Barnum because we thought it the proper thing to do, and we are sorry to say kept no copy, consequently are in the dark as to the conditions of this proxy, whether the same is perpetual or for one meeting only. What steps are necessary to revoke this proxy? We have heard many members complain regarding what seemed an excessive accumulation of surplus, have never given the matter much consideration because we were getting our insurance much cheaper than stock companies furnished it; but since our attention has been called to it, we can see how easily the company might be converted into a stock company or be re-insured should there be any disposition on the part of the management to do so; we have the utmost confidence in the company, but what guarantee have we as to its future control?"

Another correspondent writes as follows: "We note your criticism of the management of the Millers' National Ins. Co. by Mr. Barnum in the last issue of the MILLER. Our experience with him is as follows: About fourteen years ago, when the company was first started, we took out a policy which we carried five or six years. The question of accumulation of a large surplus was opposed by many of the policy holders and a good deal of kicking was done. We were among the hardest kickers. Seemingly the best way to get rid of us was to cancel our policy, which was done. Matters ran along several years when we required more insurance. The secretary of a millers' company who handled our business and carried a full line in his company on our risk, offered to place a line for us with the M. N. by reason of the fact that their inspector notified our agent that 'he would be pleased to carry a line on our risk.' Our application was made out and forwarded to the company; but was returned to us with the notation to the agent that 'they were rid of us and proposed to stay that way.' If the company belonged to Mr. Barnum he would have the

right to reject our risk for personal reasons, but if it belongs to the stock holders he has no such right and should not use it. If ever there was a one man company it is the Millers' National."

In our former issue a correspondent criticised the salary of the secretary. We think the criticism unjust. We believe a manager of Mr. Barnum's ability should receive a very liberal salary, when we consider the responsibility which attaches to the management of a company like the Millers' National. There may be perquisites that should under no circumstances be made a part of the salary of the manager of any insurance company. We can say this, however, that the expense of doing the business and the paraphernalia of the office should not be used to promote private gain.

In reply to the correspondent desiring to know what course he shall pursue to revoke his proxy, would say, if the case were ours and we desired to revoke, should simply write the secretary, requesting him to return our proxy cancelled, and we have no hesitation in saying we believe Mr. Barnum would very cheerfully comply with the request. If not, the applicant should be governed by the advice of his attorney.

As to the complaint of the second correspondent we would hardly be justified in criticising the action of the company in refusing to accept his risk, for the reason there are usually two sides to every controversy of this kind, and there may be aggravated circumstances which justify the management of the company in taking the course they did, although we do not approve the policy of such a course.

An examination of the by-laws of this company should be carefully read and digested by every policy holder. One of these requires the election of nine directors for the term of three years, each being so arranged that only three are elected (except to fill vacancy) any one year. Article viii of the by-laws reads as follows:

"The executive committee shall consist of three directors. They shall have all the powers of the board of directors when said board is not in session, but they shall at all times be subject to the control

of the board of directors and perform such duties as the board of directors may order. They shall meet at the office of this company at such times as they may deem it advisable, and ALSO upon the call of the secretary."

According to article eight this committee consists of three directors, two of whom would make a quorum; can be called together by the secretary at any time; are given full and unlimited power over the affairs of the company. With proxies of a large majority of the policy holders in hand, controlling the election of directors and officers, with an executive committee under the control of a single officer, the one man power reigns as supreme over the affairs of this company as does the Czar of Russia over his domain; and we think the policy holders are to be congratulated in the fact that the management of its affairs have not been in the hands of any one disposed to take undue advantage of the situation.

WE print in this issue the full text of the Washburn Option Bill now before Congress, regarding option trading. The bill as drawn, is very crude, and we imagine will be so trimmed and changed by the time it is ready to be voted upon that its foster parent will look upon it as a stranger.

We have given considerable space in this issue to opinions expressed by millers and grain dealers from various sections of the country. But a small portion of the millers and none of the grain dealers speak approvingly of the bill.

That some bill should be passed which will do away with the "put and call" business of our Boards of Trade,—called in the Washburn Bill "options",—and the Bucket shop trade in grain and food products, seems to be very desirable, in fact a necessity, in order that the Boards of Trade doing a legitimate business may be maintained and fostered by legitimate dealers only.

In our opinion the Washburn Bill undertakes too much. We do not believe any bill can be framed that will regulate or control entirely the speculative business of the country. We would suggest the passage of a bill:

1st, That will take cognizance of, and do away with what is

known as Bucket shop trading.

2d, A bill that will do away with "puts and calls," or "option" trading as defined in the Washburn bill.

3d, A bill which will define the general methods to be adopted by the various Boards of Trade throughout the country.

That the business of the country can be done in the old-fashioned way, and without the intervention of Boards of Trade or similar associations, we do not believe. They are as much of a necessity as the self-binder, the thrasher and the storage elevator are in handling the crops of the country. They should, however, be regulated.

MECHWART PATENTS.

A GAIN the Mechwart patents are looming up. This time in the hands of a New York attorney, George H. Benjamin, 35 Wall street, who is now, according to the abstract of title, owner of the Mechwart patents for this country. He claims to have brought suit against the Big Four by serving papers upon the John T. Noye branch of the combination. Fortunately members of the association are protected under the agreement between the Big Four and the executive committee. And have little or no cause to worry over the outcome.

JOHN B. A. KERN.

ONE of the best-known millers of the Northwest, and one of the most respected of Milwaukee's citizens, John B. A. Kern, died at his suburban home on Humboldt avenue, at 12:45 Saturday morning. On Monday, the 11th, Mr. Kern was taken down with an attack of La Grippe. This finally extended to and resulted in inflammation of the lungs, which soon proved fatal.

Mr. Kern was born in Bavaria, Germany, September 29, 1829. He came to America with his parents when a child of 3 years, was educated in Philadelphia, and started out in his business career by engaging in the wholesale tobacco trade. In 1856 he married Miss Helena Bertschy, daughter of Jacob Bertschy, one of the early millers of Milwaukee, who owned and operated what was known as the old Eagle Mill from 1846 to '55, when he died, and the mill was operated by his son,

Mr. John Bertschy, for the estate. In 1859 Mr. Kern came to Milwaukee, and with his brother-in-law, Frederick Bertschy, bought the mill of the estate and operated it until 1861, when Fred Bertschy retired from the firm and his brother John took his place, the firm name remaining unchanged until 1866. Mr. Kern then bought out the Bertschy interest and continued the business in his own name until his sons were taken into partnership, when the firm name was changed to J. B. A. Kern & Son. In the meantime the plant has been increased until it is now one of the finest in the country, with a capacity of 1,500 to 2,000 barrels per day.

As a merchant miller Mr. Kern was extraordinarily successful; in all his business transactions most upright and honorable; very popular among all classes, and we doubt if he ever had an enemy. The poor in his employ were always provided for when any misfortune happened to them. Socially he was one of the most companionable men we ever met.

Great care has been taken in the education of his sons, of whom he was justly proud, and, notwithstanding the fact that they have had full charge of the business for several years, yet they will miss keenly the judgment and wise counsel of their father.

Our business relations with Mr. Kern have extended over a period of thirty years, and during that time they have been most pleasant. We extend to the family our heartfelt sympathy.

THE UNITED STATES ROLLER MILLS.

\$2,000.00. (Two thousand dollars), being two times the amount of each and every one of the following items:

1. \$ 96.78 On the Brick Flouring Mill Building and Brick Engine and Boiler House adjoining, including Brick Smoke Stack.
2. \$ 68.55 On Engines, Boilers, Fly Wheel, Machinery, Apparatus, Appurtenances, Heaters, Independent Air Pump and Condenser, Pumps, Belting, Settings, Foundations, Connections, Fixtures, Hose, Breechings and Furnace Fronts, Oil Tanks and Tools; all while contained in the Brick Engine and Boiler House, and
3. \$483.87 On Machinery, and
4. \$ 20.16 On Stock, all while contained in or attached to the above described Flouring Mill Building and Engine and Boiler House.

5. \$ 32.26 On the two-story Brick gravel roof Warehouse on the South, situated adjoining the Brick Flouring Mill Building on the West.

6. \$ 16.13 On Machinery, and

7. \$ 64.52 On Stock, all while contained in the above described Warehouse.

8. \$16.12 On the frame iron-clad Cleaning House; and,

9. \$ 40.32 On Machinery, while contained therein.

10. \$ 32.26 On the frame iron-clad Elevator Building, including brick fire Wall on the West side;

11. \$ 8.06 On Machinery; and,

12. \$120.97 On Stock, all while contained in the above described Elevator Building, situated adjoining said Cleaning House on the East.

All the above described property being situated on Lot 10, Section 10, Eighth Ward, City of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, and known as the "UNITED STATES ROLLER MILLS."

It is understood that the building described under item No. 5 stands on leased ground, lease expiring in the year 1908.

It is a part of the consideration of this policy and the basis on which the rate of premium is fixed that the assured shall maintain insurance on the property described by this policy during the continuance thereof to the extent of at least \$100,000.

Other Insurance Permitted.

Permission is hereby given for communication between the brick Flouring Mill Building described under item No. 1 and the brick Warehouse described under item No. 5, openings secured by metal covered doors. Also permission given to use and to keep for use Kerosene Oil for lights; to use and to keep for use Mineral Oils; to make alterations, repairs and additions; to put in additional materials, stock, machinery, mill-wright work, and it is hereby understood and agreed that this policy shall also extend to and cover the same under the appropriate divisions herein. Also permission given to run at all hours, to shut down and remain shut down when necessary.

It is understood that the terms Building or Buildings, Machinery and Stock, and the specific sums insured thereon, under this policy apply as follows:

On BUILDING OR BUILDINGS—To the Building or Buildings, Foundations, Additions, Heating Apparatus, Grain Bins, Steam, Gas and Water Pipes and Fixtures thereto, Water Tanks, Stand Pipes and Ladders (in or attached to Buildings)

On MACHINERY—To all Machinery (excepting all property contained in Engine and Boiler House, described in item No. 2), Shafting, Belting, Gearing, Pulleys, Hangers, Mill-wright Work, Rollers, Middlings Purifiers, Smut and Cleaning Machines, Bolts, Bins, Elevators, Conveyors, Spouts, Flour Packers, Pumps, Hose, Scales, Machines, Brands, Fire Extinguishers, Apparatus, Implements, Tools, Fixtures, Furniture, Appurtenances, Utensils, Lumber, Hardware, Tanks, including extra parts of all of same, Furniture and Fixtures.

On STOCK—To the Grain, Flour, Offal, Feed, Meal, and all the Products of Grain, Barrels, Cooperage, Bags and Sacks of all Kinds, Twine, Barrel Nails, Stencil Paints, Oils and other Lubricants, Boiler Cleaning Compounds and Fuel, either their own or held by them in trust, or on commission, or sold but not removed.

This slip being attached to former part of policy No. 19840 of the Big Four Insurance Co., of Boston.

Dated, Milwaukee, Jan. 15, 1892.

JOHN DOB, Agent.

Technical.

A WELL MANAGED MILL.

IN a late visit to the Daisy Roller Mills of this city we found so many things pertaining to the general methods and management different from that pertaining to the majority of mills of its size, and found the details of the system carried out in this mill so interesting that we decided to give the benefit of what we learned to our readers.

It is generally the case that minute details of any intricate system of mill records soon become irksome and are looked upon as unnecessary. Not so, however, when the details of the different departments are in charge of a competent person and it is made his duty to report regularly at headquarters. In many cases this means a difference between profit or loss in running the mill.

The Daisy is considered one of the model mills the Edward P. Allis Company build, and has been arranged to carry out the system adopted, and we might say invented, by Mr. Hurd, the manager. One of the main features to success in the system is the entire absence of storage bins in the mill, for either wheat, flour, or offal. All wheat except that which is in transit through the mill, is stored in the elevator bins, the cleaning machinery being located in the cleaning house between the storage elevator and mill.

WHEAT is received in car lots. A sample from each car is taken to the weighing room and is there passed upon by the head miller, the wheat man, and the manager, and the bin into which it is to be stored designated and the number marked upon the sample bag. The object of three examiners is, that uniformity of judgment may be established, so that, in case of absence or sickness of either the uniformity of grade will not be changed. The examination usually covers quite a number of samples.

THE ELEVATOR has a capacity of 46,000 bushels, divided into eleven bins. Each bin has a slide at the bottom gauged and marked to designate the quantity of wheat passing per hour from the storage bin to the mixing conveyor. The total amount composing the mixture from the different bins being just sufficient to feed the rolls of the mill. It is intended at all times to carry a stock of the various qualities large enough to make the mixture, necessary to keep the grades of flour uniform in strength and color.

PACKING.—Every hour as the

clock strikes, the amount of each product packed out is recorded upon the black-board under its proper head. Three objects are gained by this hourly record.

1st, Correction of errors, should any occur, in the account or reading of the register.

2d, In case of a leak in the bolting cloth the damage can be confined to the grinding of a single hour and not necessitate the rebolting of a large amount of flour as often becomes necessary when packing from a large storage bin. "We have been there," and know the effect produced upon one's temper when told by the packer some morning that a hole in the bolt during the night has specked a bin full of flour, all of which will have to be rebolted.

3d, The hourly record enables the miller to know exactly what his mill is doing. An increase or decrease in the flour or offal or a decrease from the preceding hour indicates a change that it is necessary to look into.

A glance at the board upon which a twelve-hour's run is posted, makes a complete showing of each grade of flour or offal turned out each hour. This method makes it possible to take a yield at any hour during the day.

At the end of each day's run the records taken to the office make a complete inventory of all stock on hand at a certain hour, even to measuring the wheat in the elevator bins. These are gauged in a novel manner. To each bin is attached a strap gauged and marked to show the amount of wheat the bin will hold per foot in depth. Attached to the lower end of the strap is a heavy weight which is lowered into the bin until it strikes the wheat. The mark on the strap at the top of the bin gives a very correct measurement of the wheat remaining in the bin. This method is found to be sufficiently accurate to act as a check upon the daily yield made up every twenty-four hours, and also in getting a correct inventory of the wheat on hand. In case of fire this inventory would prove valuable in adjusting the loss.

FUEL.—This is weighed into the boiler room as needed, the same as done in a majority of mills, and the day's consumption recorded at the same hour the yields are taken.

From the various data above referred to the daily yield is quickly made up. In looking over the daily yields as figured, we found they varied according to the style of grinding adopted to meet the requirements of their trade at the time; the usual run and divisions are a patent, bakers', and low grade. On this basis taking one of the closest yields we found the percentage as follows:

Patent	25%
Bakers'	20%
Low Grade	15%
Brans	10%
Middlings	5%
Yield	4.25 & a fraction.
Coal consumed per barrel, 20 lbs.	

After all the necessary memoranda are collected the daily report is made out on a printed blank prepared for the purpose in book form. This blank covers all the details of the business for the previous twenty-four hours, including cash in bank, wheat in elevator, or bought but not delivered; options, if any; flour sold but not made (reduced to wheat); shows balance of long or short wheat after contracts are filled; also flour consigned or unsold of each grade; orders for feed or flour unfilled; sales of flour and feed for the day; prices of all products; amount of wheat bought during the day and the average price at mill; number of hours mill run; cause of time lost, if any; the amount and percentage of each grade of flour made; amount of feed and percentage of each; amount of wheat ground and average price per bushel; yield per barrel; pounds of coal consumed per barrel of flour made; market value of the various grades; total value of all the flour made in twenty-four hours; value of feed, each kind; total value of flour and feed; cost of wheat ground; packages, coal, wages, teaming insurance, taxes, interest, and exchange, making sum total of cost, also net cost per barrel, approximate profit or loss of the day's run which is added to or taken from the amount brought forward.

This interesting data for each day in the year can be referred to simply by turning to the proper page in the record book. At first glance the task of keeping such a complete record would seem appalling, but such is not the fact. All the departments are so thoroughly systematized that the final details do not require the time of the office clerk more than half an hour each day. The mill superintendent, who looks after the wheat, the packers, and the clerk each having this as a part of their duties, the system is easily worked out and the expenses attending it merely nominal and in no wise to be compared with the satisfaction derived from having a complete knowledge of what the mill is doing each and every day in the year.

This mill seldom consigns any flour or feed, but aims always to keep sold ahead. The system is certainly a very complete one in all its details, and acts as a most perfect check upon the various departments of the mill.

S. H. SEAMANS.

ON TAKING YIELDS.

WHILE the subject of taking yields was under discussion by the millers of Michigan at their

annual meeting the method explained by Mr. Doane met the views of many who deemed it impossible to carry it out in their individual mills on account of the necessity for weighing up the offal, which, by reason of the fact that most of the offal is sold to farmers in bulk, it was necessary to carry their supply in bins. Having had some experience in this direction, we would say that in our opinion the carrying of a stock of offal in bins is entirely unnecessary; that the farmers in any and every vicinity can easily be educated up to the idea that it is not only more profitable but much more convenient to buy his feed in sacks, and after once tried, will readily pay the additional seventy-five cents or one dollar per ton for it in this shape. The sacks are always handy to have on the farm, and if he wants to save that expense, every miller should be willing to repack all sacks in sound condition returned for that purpose.

The Americans, as a rule, are not as obstinate in their ideas and traditions as the English. In the early days of exporting flour in sacks three-quarters, if not more, had to be shipped in two hundred and eighty-pound sacks for the reason that the baker, his father and his grandfathers back to the flood had been accustomed to purchasing their flour in sacks of that size. As their ideas and vehicles were gauged to that style, it took several years to overcome their prejudices against any other style of packages; and we believe it will not take more than one or two trials with the farmer to satisfy him that taking his feed in sacks is a money-saving operation.

PRESERVING IRON FROM RUST. The beautiful iron work so much in vogue nowadays, is generally finished, on account of its susceptibility to rust, with a coating of black lacquer, or some other preparation, which is not only inappropriate, but gives to the metal an unnatural appearance. A clever Frenchman, who was an expert in metal work, showed us such a simple and effective way of preserving it from rust, that it is worth remembering. The only material required is a cow's horn (the toy trumpets sold in the shops will answer the purpose). Heat the iron and rub the edge of the horn over it—that is all. If the horn smokes a little as you rub it on you will know that the iron is hot enough. This will cause the horn to melt, and an imperceptible coating will be left upon the iron that will afford complete protection from the damp for a year or more on out-door work. On in-door work it will last indefinitely.—New York Tribune.

Milwaukee Notes

FINEST MAIL SERVICE IN THE WORLD.

THE German government desiring to improve its mail service, appointed a committee to make a tour of inspection and report upon the best equipped and most desirable system with which to improve the mail service of the German Empire.

This committee, after visiting England and other countries of Europe, and inspecting closely the equipments there used for the rapid delivery of postal matter, came to this country, visited Washington, getting full and complete information as to the details of service furnished by the several fast mail lines, and taking with them drawings of the several styles of postal cars, made their report to the home government. The outcome of this trip and the report made by the committee resulted in establishing the fact that the mail service of the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railroad from Chicago to Minneapolis was, in their opinion, the best; and resulted in an order being given by the German government to the St. Paul Road for a model mail train similar to that with which the road is now equipped. This train is composed of an engine and tender, a through mail car and a distributing car. By the courtesy of W. J. Boyle, ticket agent of the road, one of these cars was placed on exhibition in the windows of his office, 400 East Water street, opened up to show the internal arrangement and equipment of the car. It was a novel exhibition and attracted a large crowd of people.

This not only speaks well for the enterprise of the St. Paul Road, but is a credit to the shop turning out the work. The car was perfect in all its details, built to a scale one-sixth the size of the regular mail car. In short, it was a perfect working car in miniature, and can be taken apart with perfect ease. It is from the several parts that the large cars are to be modeled.

MILWAUKEE flouring mills have a capacity of 10,000 barrels a day.

THE assessed valuation of the city is \$13,075,120; amount of taxes levied, \$3,002,508.80.

PLANS have been prepared for a scissor factory to be erected in North Milwaukee, to be 44x150 feet, two stories, built of brick and to cost \$15,000. A 130 horse-power engine will be used.

MR. HEINRICH GOEHLER, Manager of Mr. Carl Haggennmacher, Budapest, made us a pleasant call and explained the working of the Haggennmacher Bolter, a method of bolting entirely new and novel. These machines are on use at the Duluth Roller Mills this city.

MILWAUKEE is to have a new National Bank, capital stock of one

million dollars. It is about decided to call it the Pubat National Bank, and will be located in the new building now being erected by the Captain at the corner of Wisconsin and East Water streets. Parties interested include Senator Sawyer and Charles Schriber of Oshkosh, D. M. Benjamin and A. A. L. Smith of Milwaukee.

THE plans are about completed for the new Daisy Mill to be built at West Superior. This will unquestionably be the banner mill of the E. P. Allis Co., build to date. The study of the plans is sufficiently interesting to make one sigh for such a mill and the good old times for running it when the margin was seldom less than one dollar per barrel.

THE Goodrich Company has sold to Capt. S. P. Grummond, of Detroit, the steamer Depere, which is now laid up at Manitowoc. The Depere rates A2, and has an insurance valuation of \$32,000. Her tonnage is 640, and she was built at Manitowoc in 1873 by Rand & Burger. She was rebuilt at the same place in 1883. The Depere has been laid up at Manitowoc for a year, as the Goodrich Company had no use for her last season. Capt. Grummond, the purchaser, is the owner of Grummond's Mackinac Line, and he will take the Depere to Detroit, to run her out of that port.

HEAVY FLOUR SHIPMENTS. On account of the heavy movement of flour, the St. Paul and North Western Railroad companies have been compelled to shut the millers out from their freight warehouses, almost entirely. In consequence the millers have leased the warehouse of the Northern Michigan, Lehigh Valley and Lake Michigan and Lake Superior companies, for purposes of storage and shipment. Several new sheds will be built next season to accommodate flour shippers, and the Anchor Line people are said to be seeking a new dock and warehouse. In December the boats running out of Milwaukee were detained several times at Grand Haven because there was not enough rolling stock to receive their cargoes, but there are now more cars. The F. & P. M. steamers No. 5 and No. 2 are engaged in raising a freight blockade at Manitowoc.

THE NEW PFISTER HOTEL.—Sam H. Brown yesterday assumed the management of the Pfister hotel. The hotel is far from being completed, but there are many things for a manager to attend to already. There are the different supplies to look after, besides keeping watch over the interior arrangement of the building. It will take from five to eight months to fill the linen order for the hotel. A good deal of time will be required for the filling of the table service order, for preparing the required furniture and so on. It will be gratifying for many to learn that Chas. F. Pfister is now in possession of an absolute majority of the Pfister Hotel company stock. The total amount of stock subscribed to is \$406,000. Chas. F. Pfister will take a personal interest in the management of the hotel, and this is security that the hotel will be run on first class principles, regardless of cost. The stockholders will be consulted, and their advice will be followed, but they will have nothing to say about the cost of the management. Mr. Pfister has leased the hotel from the company. The stockholders will have an assured interest on their stock, leaving the entire supervision over the property to Mr. Pfister. In the lease the stockholders have reserved the right to demand a change of the management if it does not suit. Among the stockholders are T. A. Chapman, B. K. Miller, R. G. Houghton, E. P. Hackett and others.

LITERARY NOTES.

THE St. Nicholas for January is full of interest for young people and their elders as well. One of the most attractive articles is Mrs. Laura E. Richard's "When I Was Your Age," in which she tells of the bringing up of her sisters, brother, and herself.

THE next number of Harper's Weekly, published January 6th, will contain a valuable and exhaustive article on the "United States Revenue Marine," accompanied by numerous illustrations. It will also contain accurate views, from the accepted plans and designs, of the new Protestant Cathedral of St. John the Divine, soon to be built in New York city.

WITH the January number, Scribners' Magazine enters upon the sixth year of its existence. An article on Paris theatres and concerts, some unpublished correspondence of Washington Allston and an interesting paper on crime and the law are among its contents. William A. Coffin contributes also an article on American illustration of to-day with examples by Vedder, Low and Cox.

HARPER'S YOUNG PEOPLE for January 5th, being the first in 1892, will be called the "Columbus number." It will consist of twenty-four pages and a specially designed cover, and will contain the story of Christopher Columbus in brief, told by Thomas A. Janvier; "The First Christmas in the New World," by Kirk Monroe; the ninth installment of the Columbus serial, "Diego Pinzon"; the second part of "The Fate of Belfield"; "New Years in Russia," by the Countess Norraikow; and other stories, articles, poems and pictures.

THE January Wide Awake comes with a store of good things for young and old that are as entertaining as they are varied. It brings to its readers stories by Molly Elliot Seawell, G. Adams, Captain C. A. Curtis, Maria McIntosh Cox and the two bright story tellers who write under the nom de plumes of "Dorothy Holcomb" and "Abd el Ardavan" the Arab. It has sketches by Amanda B. Harris, Lieut.-Col. Thorndike, Harriet Maxwell-Converse, Zittella Cocke, Otis T. Mason and Sallie Joy White. It has poems by Celia Thaxter, Anna J. McKeag, Clara Doty Bates and others. It has pictures by L. J. Bridgman, George Foster Barnes, Virginia Gerson, Child Hassam, Hy Sandham, Irving R. Wiles, Clifton Johnson, Charles Mente and E. H. Gerrett. Such a combination of story-tellers, verse-makers and artists should produce most absorbing as well as most interesting reading matter, and one needs but to glance over

Wide Awake's attractive January pages to find the promise fully carried out.

Wide Awake is published at 20 cents per number, \$2.40 per year. All booksellers keep it. D. Lothrop Co., Publishers, Boston.

THE CENTURY.—This magazine is going to outdo its own unrivaled record in its programme for 1892; and as many of its new features began in the November number, new readers should commence with that issue. Besides The Naulahka, a novel by Rudyard Kipling and Wolcott Balstier, three other serials will appear during the year, together with a great number of short stories by the best American story-writers. The well known humorist, Edgar W. Nye ("Bill Nye"), will contribute a number of amusing sketches which he calls his "Autobiographies."

A celebrated Spanish writer is to furnish a "Life of Columbus," which will be brilliantly illustrated; and the publishers of The Century have arranged with the managers of the World's Fair to print articles on the building, etc. Remit the yearly subscription price (\$4.00) to The Century Co., Union Square, New York.

MARVELOUSLY rich in illustrations and text is the fiftieth anniversary number of the American Agriculturist for January. It contains no less than 143 illustrations engraved especially for it. Most of the leading authorities in American and foreign agriculture are among its contributors, including J. R. Dodge, the government statistician, President Berckmans of the American Pomological Society; T. V. Munson, the grape expert; Dr. Jenkins of the Connecticut Experiment Station; George A. Martin, the authority on horses and cattle; A. B. Allen, the founder of the magazine; Henry Stewart, L. S. Hardin, Midy Morgan, Wm. Falconer, C. L. Allen, Prof. L. R. Taft, Prof. J. L. Budd, H. S. Babcock, P. H. Jacobs, Dr. B. D. Halsted, Dr. H. W. Wiley, Joseph Harris, George Ellwanger, Dr. C. V. Riley, Clarissa Potter, Jessie Benton Fremont and many others. It gives a remarkable statistical epitome of the present situation of American agriculture and the figures to show its apparently brilliant future. A comprehensive statistical review of the cotton trade and crop for fifty years and of our live stock and principal cereal crops is also given. The list is given of all the live stock breeders' associations of the world that preserve a registry for recording pedigrees, which is as complete for Europe as for the United States, and is alone worth many times the fifteen cents charged for a single copy, or \$1.50 per year.

THE WASHBURN OPTION BILL.

INTRODUCED BY HON. W. D. WASHBURN IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, DEC. 24, READ TWICE AND REFERRED TO THE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE.

SEC. 1. Be it enacted by the senate and house of representatives of the United States of America, in congress assembled, that for the purpose of this act the word "options" shall be understood to mean any contract or agreement whereby a party thereto, or any party for whom or in whose behalf such contract or agreement is made, contracts to have or give to himself or another the option to buy or sell at a future time any of the grain or other commodity mentioned in section three of this act.

Sec. 2. That for the purpose of this act the word "futures" shall be understood to mean any contract or agreement whereby a party agrees to buy, or agrees to sell and deliver, at a future time to another any of the articles mentioned in section 3 of this act, when at the time of making such contract or agreement the party agreeing to make such delivery, or the party for whom he acts as agent, broker or employee in making such contract or agreement, is not at the time of making the same the owner of the article so contracted and agreed to be delivered, or unless the article so contracted to be sold and delivered shall subsequently be actually delivered to the purchaser for manufacture or consumption. Provided, however, that this act shall not apply to any contracts or agreements for the future delivery of any of the said articles made with the United States, or any state, county, or municipality, or with the duly authorized officers or agents thereof, nor to the contracts or agreements made by farmers for the sale and delivery of any of the articles aforesaid which are in actual course of production by such farmers at the time of so making such contract or agreement.

Sec. 3. The articles to which the foregoing sections relate are wheat, corn, oats, rye, barley, cotton and all other farm products; also, pork, lard, and all other hog products.

Sec. 4. That special taxes are imposed as follows: Dealers in "options" or "futures" shall pay annually the sum of \$1,000, and shall also pay the further sum of 5c per pound for each and every pound of cotton or pork, lard, or other hog products, and the sum of 20c per bushel for each and every bushel of any of the other articles mentioned in section 3 of this act, and the right and privilege of delivering which may be acquired under any "options" contract or agreement, as defined by section 1 of this act, or which may be sold to be delivered at a

future time or period, under any "futures" contract or agreement as defined in section 2 of this act, which said amounts shall be paid to the collector of internal revenue, as hereinafter provided, and by him accounted for, as required in respect to other special taxes collected by him. Every person, association, copartnership, or corporation who shall, in their own behalf, or as broker agent, or employee of another, deal in "options" or make any "options" contract or agreement as hereinbefore defined, shall be deemed a dealer in "options," and every person, association, copartnership, or corporation who shall, in their own behalf, or as broker, agent or employee of another, deal in "futures" or make any "futures" contract or agreement, as hereinbefore defined, shall be deemed a dealer in "futures."

Sec. 5. That every person, association, copartnership or corporation engaged in, or proposing to engage in, the business of dealer in "options" or of dealer in "futures" as hereinbefore defined shall, before commencing such business, or making any such "options" or "futures" contract or agreement, make application in writing to the collector of internal revenue for the district in which he proposes to engage in such business, or make such contract or agreement, setting forth the name of the person, association, partnership or corporation, place of residence of the applicant, the business engaged in, and where such business is carried on, and, in case of partnership, association or corporation, the names and places of residence of the several persons constituting the same, and shall thereupon pay to such collector the sum aforesaid of \$1,000, and shall also execute and deliver to such collector a bond in the penal sum of \$5,000, with two or more sureties satisfactory to the collector, conditioned upon the full and faithful compliance by the obligor therein with all the requirements of this act. And thereupon the collector shall issue to such applicant a certificate, in such form as the commissioner of internal revenue shall prescribe, that such applicant is authorized, for the period of one year from the date of such certificate, to be a dealer in "options" or "futures" and to make "options" or "futures" contracts or agreements, as hereinbefore defined, and for the period specified in such certificate the party to whom it is issued may conduct the business of dealer as aforesaid. Such certificate may be renewed annually, upon compliance with the provisions of this act, and any "options" or "futures" contract or agreement, as defined by this act, shall be absolutely void as between the parties

thereto and their respective assigns, unless the party making such contract or agreement shall have, at the time of making the same, a certificate, as aforesaid, authorizing the making thereof.

Sec. 6. That it shall be the duty of the collector to keep in his office a register containing a copy of each and every application made to him under the foregoing section, and a statement in connection therewith as to whether a certificate has been issued thereon, and for what period, which book or register shall be a public record and be subject to inspection of any and all persons desiring to examine the same.

Sec. 7. That every "options" or "futures" contract or agreement, as hereinbefore defined, shall be in writing and signed in duplicate by the parties making the same; and any such contract or agreement not so made and signed shall, as between the parties thereto and their assigns, be absolutely void.

Sec. 8. That it shall be the duty of every person, copartnership, association, or corporation, on the first day of the week next succeeding the date of the certificate issued to them, and on the first day of every week thereafter, to make to the collector of the district in which any "options" or "futures" contract or agreement has been made, full and complete return and report, under oath, of any and all such contracts or agreements made or entered into by such persons, copartnership, association, or corporation during the previous week, together with a statement of the article or articles embraced in or covered by such contracts or agreements and the amounts, respectively, of each, and the name of the party or parties with whom such contracts or agreements have been made, and at the same time, to pay such collector the amount of the tax hereinbefore required of 5c per pound on each and every pound of cotton, and of pork, lard, or other hog products, and of 20c per bushel on each and every bushel of any of the other articles mentioned in section 3 of this act which are the subject of, or covered by, such contracts or agreements, or any of them, for which sums such collector shall give his receipt to the party so paying, and the sums so collected shall be accounted for by the collector, as provided by law in respect to other taxes collected by him.

Sec. 9. That every person who shall, in his own behalf or in behalf of any other person, association, partnership, or corporation, enter into any "options" or "futures" contract or agreement as defined by this act, without having a certificate of authority from the collector,

as hereinbefore provided, and covering the time at which contract or agreement shall be made, shall beside being liable for the amounts prescribed in section 4 of this act, be fined not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000 for each and every such offense. And every person who shall make to the collector a false or fraudulent return or report required by section 8 of this act shall be subject to a fine of not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$5,000, or to imprisonment for not less than 30 days nor more than six months, or to both such fine and imprisonment.

Sec. 10. That neither the payment of the taxes required nor the certificate issued by the collector under this act shall be held to exempt any person, association, copartnership, or corporation from any penalty or punishment, now or hereafter provided by the laws of any state for making contracts or agreements such as are hereinbefore defined as "options" or "futures" contracts or agreements, or in any manner to authorize the making of such contracts or agreements within any state or locality contrary to the laws of such state or locality nor shall the payment of the taxes imposed by this act be held to prohibit any state or municipality from placing a tax or duty in the same trade, transaction, or business for state, municipal or other purposes.

Sec. 11. That section 3209 of the revised statutes of the United States is, so far as applicable, made to extend and apply to the taxes imposed by this act and to the persons upon whom they are imposed.

In addition to the New York, Buffalo and St. Louis correspondences interviews have been had with various persons, including millers, elevator men, grain dealers and others upon the feasibility of the "Washburn Option Bill," now before congress.

Our Minneapolis correspondent gives the following:

"I attended a meeting at the Chamber of Commerce called with reference to the 'Washburn Option Bill,' and can say that Mr. W. found that he had stirred up a hornet's nest among the elevator men. It was easy to see from Mr. Washburn's ignorance of the bill that he was not the father of it; but more likely it came from the hand of C. A. Pillsbury, and it is clear to my mind it would be a great help to C. A.'s business. He, however, being in New York, could not interview him. The present form of the bill would exterminate trading in wheat for future delivery on open markets.

Mr. F. L. Greenleaf as a 'miller' considered the bill a fine thing, as it would reduce the number of buyers of wheat, therefore lessen the price during liberal receipts. Millers would practically have their own say as to price. As a 'grain man' he thought it would do incalculable harm. Country buyers having no means to hedge their purchases, would of necessity buy on a large margin, and bankers realizing the hazardous character of grain buying would be shy of loaning

money to that class of men. The bill aimed at a minor evil would strike out the methods of safety of the great grain business of the country.

What man buying from twenty-five to seventy-five thousand bushels a day in the country when car famines, storms, etc., would prevent forwarding his wheat, could feel his profit very safe unless he bought on a big margin? He could not suggest any legislation which would improve present condition.

A. C. Loring, manager Consolidated Mill Co.—"Am decidedly against the bill as a miller, and more so as a grain man. It will depress the price of wheat in the fall when the bulk of wheat moves, and keep it moving to where it meets a consuming or exporting buyer; and if the millers do not stop the flow by piling it up in their houses and subject themselves to danger of loss, the wheat may move out of the country to the extent of producing a scarcity. When we buy the cash wheat and hedge against it in Chicago or elsewhere, we retain the raw material with minimum risk." Mr. L. thinks things are all right as they are.

Mr. E. R. Barber, Mr. Hinkle and Mr. L. Christian did not care to talk upon the subject, but are all opposed to the bill and agreed in the belief that the bill would not pass congress. All grain men see nothing but ruin to their business. By grain men I mean country buyers.

The directors of the Chamber of Commerce invited Mr. Washburn to meet the members in a discussion of the bill, not only because of its ruinous effect upon their business, but because of the ruinous effect on the farmer as they view it. The milling interest was represented by Mr. Morse, and the elevator interest by Messrs. Sawyer, Peavey, Van Deusen, Robbins and Pratt. The gentlemen all spoke to one point, holding "that the illegitimate speculators the bill intended to hit do not cover 10 per cent. of the grain interest, and that to drive them out of business on the basis proposed in the bill would be ruin to 90 per cent. of the grain traders who are legitimate buyers of wheat." The bill practically prohibits any but the manufacturer or consumer from buying wheat. The bill would undermine the credit of the country and city elevators and milling firms for the reason that unless they can protect purchases by selling for future delivery, Eastern banks would not furnish money as the risk would be too great, and the effect of the bill would be to reduce the price of the wheat from ten to twenty-five cents a bushel.

President Sawyer, of the Sawyer Elevator Co., was very emphatic in his denunciation. "The millers can not possibly take 50 per cent. of the wheat the farmers have to sell," he said. "The elevator men who buy it must find other channels, principally by exporting, as all other buyers are wiped out of existence."

A letter to Mr. Sawyer from Henry F. Kneeland & Co., grain merchants, New York, referring to the bill, says:—"I have sometimes thought a bad law carries its own cure. Let the bill prevail and the West and East will soon repeal or nullify it. The business of the world is done on futures. A bridge can not be built but there are contracts for future. A pair of shoes represents a future trade in green hides, and the manufactured leather sold by the tanner, not to mention the dealers in shoe findings, linings, buttons, and perhaps some estimate of cost of labor in futures. A barrel of pork represents no end of future dealings; and so a barrel of flour. If our house sells your Duluth grades of wheat for delivery in January and buys the wheat for shipment, and it gets in a blockade this side of Buffalo, and to an ex-

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tent that several large cargos do not arrive here, you see how necessary it is that I must be able to fill my sales by purchase of some one who has such wheat, an option perhaps to deliver seller the month which I can exchange, as I often do, for cash wheat, saving owner expense of carrying it. I wonder what the price of wheat would be this crop had Europe had an average crop. Legitimate speculation is necessary to prosperity."

Bernard Stern & Son, Milwaukee:—"The passage of the bill will depreciate the price of grain. It is no detriment to the miller in securing his supplies. The present methods with boards of trade do not prevent equitable prices in the buying or selling of cash grain or futures, with exception of attempts to corner the market. This should be prevented by a rule making actual value determined by a standing committee in case of non-delivery of grain. Present board of trade methods are the best regulator of prices for grain."

F. H. Magdeburg:—"We do not believe that a law can ever be framed that will effectually stop gambling in grain or other commodities, be they food or other products. The days of 'the millennium' are not at hand. No class of people ought to deprecate gambling in wheat more than millers, because unnatural conditions of the market act detrimentally upon their business. No class of people could exercise more good influence upon this question of option trading than the commission men or brokers who take orders of that nature. If such would insist that a margin of ten cents per bushel accompany each order to buy or sell option wheat, and insist that such margins should at all times be maintained, it would naturally reduce the 'wind' sales or 'wind' purchases, and to that extent rectify many ills of his peculiar trade, and drive the illegitimate trading out of existence more effectually than any law that could be passed. Boards of trade, we believe, have no influence in the fixing of values. Values are fixed by the laws of supply and demand. Boards of trade are only organizations that facilitate the sale and purchase of produce, bringing business men together where they can exhibit their wares, and there is no doubt that owing to such opportunity of bringing buyers and sellers together the property sold brings its full market value, while the buyer has an opportunity, without much trouble or loss of time, to supply his wants much better than if no board existed. If the putting up of margins on option trades were made the law by boards of trade we think it would go far toward breaking up pernicious gambling in food and other products."

D. B. Merrill, Kalamazoo, thinks the bill would be of material advantage to the farmer and miller as prices would be regulated by supply and demand and would neither enhance or depress values. Does not believe board of trade methods necessary in handling wheat. Thinks present board of trade methods have a tendency to both increase and diminish prices, working both ways according to pressure brought to bear upon the

market. Thinks the mills of the United States would be worth fifteen per cent more with option dealing abandoned.

Homer Baldwin, Youngstown, Ohio, is in favor of anything that will stop the indiscriminate selling of grain options where the seller has neither in his possession or in transit, nor any intention of actual delivery. Let supply and demand make the price; and he hopes the day will come when real values can be ascertained without looking to a black-board before we know what we can pay for wheat. Steady markets are the great need of millers, and in fact all legitimate trading; an unsteady, fluctuating market is the delight of the speculator, but death to the miller.

Mr. B. F. Irenberg, Huntington, Pa., does not think the passage of the Bill will be a detriment to the miller in securing his supplies of wheat, nor will it have a tendency to enhance or depress values—but to put them at real value. Thinks it will do away with fictitious trading; which is right, and will be a great relief to the miller, and will not hurt the Board of Trade men—but it has a tendency to inflate prices.

H. C. Cole & Co., Chester, Ill. We are in favor of any bill that will stop the gambling part of future sales in grain; have no doubt but such restrictions will enhance the value of grain and steady prices to an extent that will be beneficial to all legitimate trade; it might not increase the millers' profits, but it would lessen the hazard now existing from the constant changing of prices, due to option trading.

D. R. Sparks, Alton, Ill.:—"I am and ever have been opposed to this gambling in grain or other products for the reason first, that it totally demoralizes prices by putting them too high, and then by a sudden decline prices are left in a more depressed condition than if supply and demand were allowed to take their legitimate course."

If illegal gambling is wrong, this species of gambling is also wrong. In our great Exchanges the very worst species of gambling is carried on in the most open and defiant manner. Its demoralizing effect is seen in almost every failure of both private and public corporations. Scarcely a bank failure but the cause can be traced to gambling in grain, stocks, or articles of a like nature.

The effect of the passage of this bill or a similar one would be to steady prices, bring margins to a low but legitimate rate, while the supply of wheat could easily be had because the price would be regulated by the supply and demand.

In regard to its tendency to enhance prices, believe that the average would be better as they would not suffer from these great declines that so demoralize the market. Its effect upon present boards of trade methods, would be to confine the business to legitimate trading. If parties wish to buy or sell wheat, let them buy and sell elevator receipts, which represent the real wheat. There could be no objections to this, as trading would not then go beyond the wheat in store. Purchasing for future delivery is also legitimate, for without it, it would be difficult to carry on any very extensive business. Dealing in fu-

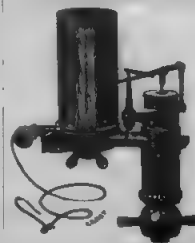
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tures should be confined to their legitimate use. Buying and selling futures where the parties to the deal expect to receive or deliver the property is right and proper; but there is no connection between this kind of buying and selling and what is known as option deals where neither party expects to receive or deliver the property. Present board of trade methods where option dealing is allowed, tends to demoralize trade and cheapens the article dealt in.

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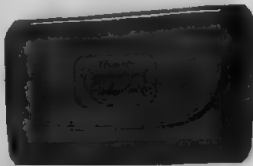
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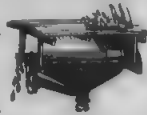
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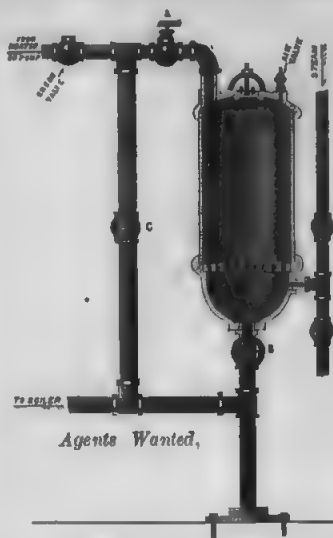
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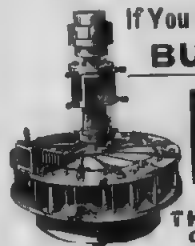
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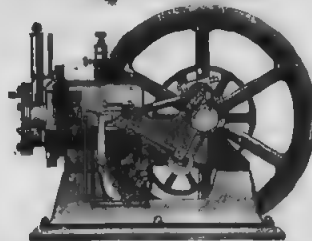
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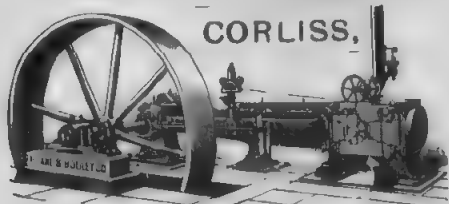
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PATENT DECISION.

We are in receipt of a certified copy of a decision by the United States Court for the Northern District of Iowa, Eastern Division, in the case of Oliver C. Ritter vs. John Loetscher, sustaining the validity of Ritter's patent. The decision reads as follows:

"Now on this 9th day of November, A. D. 1881 term of said Court, this cause coming to be heard upon the bill of complaint and answer and amended answer of Respondent and also the admission filed herewith of the infringement by respondent and that the statements set out in Complaint's Bill are true:

It is therefore ordered, adjudged and decreed that the complainant have and recover of the respondent the profits which he has received and which have accrued to said complainant by reason of the said infringement by the manufacture and use of the improvements set out, described and claimed in said Letters Patent from and since the date of said patent to the present time and which by agreement of the parties to this action, amounts to the sum of \$50; for which amount judgment is now rendered against said respondent together with all costs and disbursements taxed at \$42.59.

And it is further ordered, adjudged and decreed that the respondent and his clerks, agents, attorneys and workmen be perpetually enjoined from making, using, or selling to others to be used, any machinery for the purpose of carrying out "The art of manufacturing flour, consisting essentially in crushing or grinding the wheat in one operation between two corrugated rolls running at high differential speed, using fine corrugation for slow roll with coarser for fast, bolting out the finished flour, separating the middlings in two grades and tailing off finished bran, regrinding said grades of middlings on separate machines, rebolting the middlings, chop on separate scalpels tail off the 'fluff' or feed product contained therein, and rebolting these valuable portions of the middlings with the first-break flour in straight grade work or on separate reel" as set out, described and claimed in said Letters Patent; and further be perpetually enjoined as prayed in said Bill of Complaint herein, and that the Complainant have execution for said costs and judgment."

From the amount of profits agreed upon and the small amount of costs, this case looks like one in which the defendant had little or no interest in contesting the validity of the claims made. We apprehend, however, this decision will never cause any of our milling friends to lie awake nights with the

fear that the United States Marshall will summon them summarily into court for infringing the process.

DECIDED IN THE COURTS.

CONTRACTS OF INFANTS.—A minor who contracts with his employer that the price of articles, not necessities, purchased by him from his employer, shall be deducted from his wages, may, on becoming of age, repudiate his contract, and recover his wages without deduction, though he may have disposed of the articles to his benefit.—Moose v. Ely, Supreme Judicial Court of Massachusetts, 28 N. E., Rep. 577.

VERBAL CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT.—A contract of employment to be void by the statute of frauds, unless reduced to writing, must be one that from its terms the parties did not intend should be completed within one year from the time it was entered into. A contract of employment from month to month, although continued for three and a half years, and is not within the statute, and is valid if only verbal.—Kein v. Schaeffing, Supreme Court of Nebraska, 49 N. W., Rep. 773.

EXEMPTION OF WAGES BY CONTRACT.—A person who was the head of a family, was indebted to a corporation in the sum of \$700, which he could not pay. With full knowledge of these facts the corporation entered into a contract with him to employ him as traveling salesman in their business at a monthly compensation of \$100, besides his personal expenses, one-half of which compensation to be paid in cash, and the other half to be credited upon the indebtedness, under which contract he worked for the company two months. In an action by him against the company he was entitled to recover one-half of sixty days' pay, or \$100.—William Deering Co. v. Buffner, Supreme Court of Nebraska, 49 N. W., Rep. 771.

WHEAT-STEALING WHILE IN TRANSIT.—Under the Missouri statute, which makes stealing from a railroad car grand larceny, without reference to the value of the property taken, it is unnecessary to allege or prove the value of grain alleged to have been taken from a car. The variance between the charge of an indictment that grain was taken from a car on the track of the Wabash railroad, and the proof that it was taken from a car on the "Wabash Western," cannot be prejudicial where there is but one railroad in the country where the venue is laid. There being evidence that the grain was taken from the ground near the car, and there being proof of the value, an instruction that in such case the of-

fence would be petit larceny only, was properly given.—State v. Sharp, Supreme Court of Missouri, 17 S. W., Rep. 225.

SALE OF UNPROFITABLE MILL BUILT ON BONUS.—Where the citizens of a town, in order to secure the location of a flour mill, give a bonus of \$2,500, to which the builder adds \$8,000 of his own money, if the venture, without fault on the part of the builder, proves to be a losing one, he may sell the machinery and abandon the project after conducting it for two years at a loss, and this is not a fraud upon the contributors to the bonus.—Ayres v. Dutton, Supreme Court of Michigan, 49 N. W., Rep. 897.

APPROPRIATION OF BUSINESS REPUTATION.—A person who had been connected prominently with a firm which was widely known to the trade, and which had a considerable reputation, withdrew from the firm and engaged in the same business on his own account. In his advertising matter, and on his goods he made the fact of his former connection with the old firm very prominent, and entered into a systematic effort to build up his own trade from his acquaintances among the customers of the old firm. The latter sought to secure an injunction restraining these acts, which was denied. Inasmuch as the facts which he advertised with reference to his former relations to the firm were true, and not calculated to mislead anyone, he had a right to use them, and a man who sells out his interest in a business, and not contract not to do so, has as much right to enter the same line of business and work for trade among his former customers as anyone else has.—Marcus Ward & Co., Ltd., v. Ward, Supreme Court of New York, 15 N. Y., Supp. 913.

DAMAGE BY RUNAWAY TEAM.—A person who is injured by a runaway team cannot recover damages from the owner unless he affirmatively shows that the latter was negligent. The mere fact that the team ran away does not raise a presumption that the driver was negligent. Gray v. Tompkins, City Court of New York, 15 N. Y., Supp. 953.

WRONGFUL DISCHARGE OF EMPLOYEE.—The mere fact that an employee made some mistakes, was somewhat inattentive to business and that his manners in his intercourse with other employees were not pleasant, will not justify a wrongful discharge, when none of these points were given as reasons when he was discharged and were not brought out till he brought suit for damages. The president and secretary of a corporation have power to bind the corporation by a contract

of employment for a year, and the company is liable for damages resulting from a wrongful discharge.—Hand v. Clearfield Coal Co., Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, 22 At., Rep. 709.

PURCHASE OF PROPERTY SUBJECT TO MORTGAGE.—Where a person purchases property subject to a chattel mortgage, and agrees to pay off the mortgage, that is not an agreement to pay the debt of another, and therefore void under the statute of fraud as the debts follow the property, and in order to protect his own interest he must see that it is paid.—Mulvaney v. Gross, Court of Appeals of Colorado, 27 Pac., Rep. 878.

STOPPAGE IN TRANSIT IN CALIFORNIA.—As the California Code declares that all the title to the freight which the first holder of a bill of lading had when he received it passes to every person to whom it is subsequently indorsed in good faith and for value, in the ordinary course of business, with like effect and like manner as in the case of a bill of exchange, the holder of the bills of lading received in good faith from the buyer of them under an agreement to apply the proceeds of the sale of the goods to the payment of prior advances made by the holder to him, can hold the goods against the lien of right of stoppage in transit of the seller, or the purchase price of the goods.—Sheppard v. Newhall, United States Court, California, 47 Fed., Repp. 469.

RECENT MILLING PATENTS.

The following list of patents for Milling and Grain Handling Appliances, granted during the month of December, 1891, is especially reported for the U. S. Miller, by H. G. Underwood, Patent Attorney and Solicitor, No. 107, Wisconsin St., Milwaukee, Wis., who will send a copy of any patent named to any address for 25c.

- No. 464,101. — Grain Distributing Spout, Edward D. Mayo, Minneapolis, Minn., assignor Burnett and Record, same place.
- No. 464,776. Separator and Screen, James Pollock, Wilkesbarre, Pa.
- No. 464,108. Elevator and Conveyor, Frank T. Patterson and Alphonse Feldpaue, Philadelphia, Pa.
- No. 465,233. Grain Drier Floor, Johann H. E. Rathmann, Buffalo, N. Y.
- No. 465,196. Safety Device for Grain Mills, Paul J. Parsons, Philadelphia, Pa.
- No. 465,543. Dust and Flour Separator, James H. Shelley, Brooklyn, N. Y., assignor to himself and John D. Buchler, same place.
- No. 465,544. Dust Separator, James H. Shelley, Brooklyn, N. Y.
- No. 465,473. Flour Packer, William D. Gray, Milwaukee, Wis., assignor to Edward P. Allis Co., same place.
- No. 465,488. Grain Bin Alarm, John H. Nichols, Sheldon, Iowa.
- No. 466,125. Grain Cleaning and Separating Machine, Charles Cloz, St. Ansgar, Iowa.
- No. 466,243. Grain Separator, Richard A. Kelly, Webster City, Iowa.
- No. 466,312. Grain Meter, Hugh B. Stinson, Morris, Minn.
- No. 465,624. Middlings Grader, Wm. J. Fender, Minneapolis, Minn.
- No. 466,251. Roller Mill, Arthur Moore, Toronto, Canada.

MILL ITEMS.

DALTON, Ark.—A grist mill and cotton gin will be built here by T. J. Melroy.

TIMBERVILLE, Va.—A flouring mill will be erected here. Cornelius Driver can give particulars.

GONZALES, Tex.—An oil mill and gin will be established here. J. P. Randle, J. W. Ramsey and others are the directors.

DICKSON, Tenn.—A flouring mill will be erected here. J. R. Bryan, A. T. Bussett and others can give information.

MORRISTOWN, Tenn.—The Morristown Mill Company has shut down one of its mills, preparatory to increasing its daily capacity from 200 to 400 barrels.

DOMESTIC CROPS, STOCKS, &c.

NATURE has dealt doubtfully with the Canadians this year. The grain yield in Ontario, according to the Bureau of Industry, has been unusually large. The fall and spring wheat crop is estimated at 36,584,026 bushels, nearly one-half larger than for 1890. The oat crop exceeds by 22,000,000 bushels last year's light crop, and the average prairie crop is the heaviest in ten years. One hundred and forty thousand fewer acres were sown in barley than last year, but the yield is 541,737 bushels more. The root crops are described as enormous. Fall wheat has averaged from twenty-five to thirty bushels an acre in many sections and weighs 60 to 66 pounds per bushel.

CROPS OF THE UNITED STATES.—The estimates by states and territories of farm products and value of the principal cereals of the United States for 1891, made by the statistician of the Department of Agriculture, were given to the press January 6. The crops of corn, wheat and oats, including all but 2 or 3 per cent. of the cereal aggregate, are reported. The total of corn has only been exceeded once. The wheat product is the largest ever grown in any country, and the yield per acre in the United States is the largest ever reported by the Department of Agriculture. The total for oats was slightly exceeded in 1889. The aggregates are as follows:

Corn.—Area, 76,204,515 acres; product, 2,000,154,000 bushels; value, \$896,439,220.

Wheat.—Area, 30,916,897 acres; product, 611,780,000 bushels; value, \$513,472,711.

Oats.—Area, 25,581,861 acres; product, 736,304,000 bushels; value, \$232,312,267.

The aggregate of all cereals is the largest yet produced, and will supply 54 to 55 bushels per unit of population. The wheat supply is the largest ever reported in proportion to population, averaging 9.4 bushels to each person, against 9.2 for the largest previous crop.

The three principal grain crops in the United States are corn, wheat and oats, comparing in area, product and value in the order named and yielding to the farmers a total value last year of \$582,224,206. The total area devoted to the three crops, 141,703,273 acres, is a trifle less than five times the area of the State of Pennsylvania, and the crop in bushels aggregated as follows: Corn, 2,000,154,000; wheat, 611,780,000 (the largest grown in the country by nearly 100,000,000 bushels), and oats, 736,304,000.

In value they divide: Corn, \$896,439,220; wheat, \$513,472,711, and oats, \$232,312,267. Corn occupied 76,204,515 acres, or a trifle more than two and a half times the areas of Pennsylvania; wheat, 30,916,897 acres, or about one-third more, and oats 25,581,861 acres, or one-fifth less than the area of that state. It thus appears that

the three great grain crops of the country are grown upon less than one-thirtieth of its area exclusive of Alaska, and that although cotton may be the king so far as exports are concerned, corn is really the king crop of the country.

Of the corn-growing states Iowa stands first with a crop of 350,878,000 bushels, Illinois second with 234,880,000, Missouri third with 203,210,000, Nebraska fourth with 167,652,000, and Kansas fifth with 141,893,000 bushels. Pennsylvania's 46,327,000 bushels cuts a small figure by the side of the states above named, but its crop is more than double that of New York with about the same area in square miles.

The greatest wheat-growing state is Minnesota with 55,333,000; Kansas crowds it hard with 54,866,000; Indiana is third with 52,105,000, and North Dakota fourth with 52,105,000, these four states comprising all with a crop of 50,000,000 bushels and upward. Ohio is fifth on the list with 45,531,000 bushels, California sixth with 36,595,000, Illinois seventh with 35,025,000, Michigan eighth with 30,205,000, and South Dakota ninth with 29,714,000. Pennsylvania grew 20,864,000, nearly enough to furnish bread for its own population, and twice the New York crop.

Illinois had the largest oat crop, 111,065,000 bushels, and Iowa the second largest, 102,577,000, these two being the only states producing 100,000,000 and upward. In the production of oats New York leads Pennsylvania with a crop of 41,894,000, against 33,704,000 bushels in the latter state.—*New York Journal of Finance*.

FOREIGN CROPS, STOCKS, &c.

THE Belgian wheat crop is semi-officially estimated at 2,000,000 qrs., compared with 2,400,000 qrs. last year. This is a much higher estimate than the one lately published in this country.

AN Odessa paper states that speculators have recently purchased several lots of rye exported from Russia for the purpose of bringing it back to Russia again. A cargo shipped from Copenhagen is stated to have been recently returned to St. Petersburg.

THE English Agricultural Department returns for the past season show crops as follows: Wheat, 72,127,263 bushels; barley, 72,129,005 bushels; oats, 112,386,291 bushels. The production last year was: wheat, 73,354,484 bushels; barley, 73,933,801 bushels; and oats, 120,188,046 bushels. The crops the past season were inferior in quality and condition to that of the previous year.

THE Russian Empire in its present affliction, will have the sympathy of all Englishmen, but the statistics set forward by the Russian Ministers of Finance do not make the situation very clear. It seems that twice before, within the comparatively short period of ten years, have total crops resulted in figures not much different from 1891. It is true that the figures offered for the present year are the smallest of the series of years, but the difference from 1889 is only 7 per cent, and it is only 8 per cent different from another year within the eighties. We want to know not only what Russia really grows but what Russia consumes.—*Mark Lane Express*.

THE average output of the flour mills of the United Kingdom, taking 6 days of 24 hours per week, during the past three years, has been about 80,000 sacks per day, which, it is pointed out with a certain amount of pride, by an American contemporary, is only about three times the capacity of the Minneapolis mills alone. Imports of foreign flour into the U. K. it may be added, contribute about 20,000 sacks per day towards our requirements, the whole

of which, and more, it is safe to say, could be made by English mills if they ran full time the year through.—*Corn Trade Journal*, Dec. 14, '91.

IN regard to the wheat requirements of France a cable says:—"Farmers have supplied 1,825,000 qrs. per month since August 1, or 7,300,000 qrs. for the four months, which with 5,200,000 qrs. used for seed makes a total consumed for the home crop of 12,500,000 qrs., or half the crop. As France's wants from December 1 to July 31 (eight months) amount to 25,000,000 qrs., it follows that she still has to import 12,500,000 qrs., toward which there are 2,100,000 qrs. in bond on the 1st inst., and 950,000 qrs. on ocean passage for France, leaving 11,350,000 qrs. of foreign wheat still to be bought from the exporting countries to supply the needs of the country from December 1 to next harvest."

THE Russian wheat, which is reaching us in large quantity this year, though supply is prevented from further increase, is divided into two sorts, Azima and Ghirka, the former being October and November sown grain, the latter April sown. An analysis of the constituents of the two sorts shows that the Azima is poorer in nitrogen and in albuminoids than the Ghirka. Both sorts are equally rich in gluten. It is curious, when these analyses are considered, that Russian Azima wheat has recently been fetching one shilling more money than Ghirka. The spring wheat is also used to strengthen inferior winter wheat for milling purposes.—*Mark Lane Express*.

ELECTRICAL.

AN electric device for clearing a track of obstructions is among the newest ideas. It consists of a triangular steel folding frame, over which a net is stretched. This is placed on the front of a locomotive and can be opened at will, catching the obstruction upon it.

ELECTRICAL engineers are continually discovering new opportunities to utilize power that has in the past been given but little attention. Very recently Chicagoans have been shown water falls on the Kankakee River, Illinois, not more than 60 miles from Chicago, which can be made to deliver 2,500 horse power 24 hours run, or about 4,500 horse power 12 hours, or mill time run. Electrical engineers feel confident that they can transmit this power electrically so as to deliver immense quantities of power in the city of Chicago. Considering the fact that electric power was transmitted 110 miles from Neckar to Frankfurt-on-the-Main, Germany, these electricians' claims seem very plausible, and we expect to see the falls put to use at an early date.

ELECTRICITY IN FLOUR MILLS.—Mr. Kingsland Smith, of St. Paul, Minn., has been experimenting upon the use of electricity as a motive power for flouring mills. According to press dispatches, he is to revolutionize the power for driving flour mills. We remember something about Mr. Smith's great revolution of several years ago, when the electric middling purifier was to become the wonder of the age, but the lightning refused to be harnessed for that purpose. Electricity costs money to produce. When generated by water power it may be used to transfer the power to a suitable locality, but not without loss of waste and friction. To get something out of nothing has been the labor of students for generations, but without success. We look to see Mr. Smith's model be consigned to the scrap pile, or kept as a curiosity, before his dream is realized. The great mills of Minneapolis will not be changed over to this theory, for a while at least.

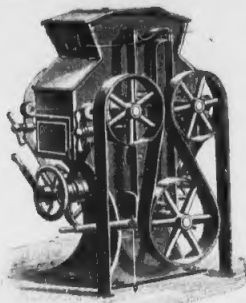
WORTH KNOWING.

AN INVENTIVE SUGGESTION.—A gentleman of inventive mind, residing in this city, suggests the following method of getting rid of the overhead electric trolley, telegraph and telephone wires: Let a suitable conduit of cast iron be devised, which shall, at the same time, serve the purpose of curbstone to the sidewalks. It can then be placed in position, be easy of access by proper openings, and answer the double end of being at once a substantial curb and a safe and convenient receptacle for the now unsightly, annoying and dangerous wires on poles in the streets. Some difficulties may be encountered on the score of induction and otherwise, but minor and secondary troubles, such as these, in most inventions are generally overcome. The idea at least seems plausible, and the suggestion is worthy of consideration.—*Dubuque (Ia.) Trade Journal*.

MANUFACTURE OF WATCH GLASSES.—In the manufacture of watch glasses the workman gathers with the blowing tube several kilograms of glass. Softening this by holding it to the door of the furnace, he puts the end of the tube into communication with a reservoir of compressed air, and a big sphere is blown. It is of course necessary to get the exact proportion of material at the commencement of the operation, accompanied by a peculiar twist of the hand and an amazing skillfulness. The sphere ought to be produced without rents, and in such dimensions that it is of the requisite thickness.

Out of these balls the workman cuts convex disks of the required size. This is a delicate operation. A "tournette," a kind of compass furnished with a diamond in one of its branches, is used. The diamond having traced the circle, the glass is struck on the interior and exterior sides with a stick and the piece is detached. The disks, which are afterward traced, are obtained very easily. They are seized by the thumb, passed through the aperture already made, and detached by the pressure of two fingers. An able workman will cut 6,000 glasses a day.—*New York Commercial Advertiser*.

THE house of representatives of South Carolina has passed the anti-free railroad-pass bill, which has previously been passed by the senate. It prohibits receiving of free passes on railroads by any member of the senate or house, or state or judge, or any court of record in the state. A provision excepting the railroad commissioners and superintendent of education was stricken out. The penalty provided in the bill is \$500 fine or six months' imprisonment for any official accepting a pass, and a similar fine for any railway official offering the pass.



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4 ROLLER WHEAT MILL.

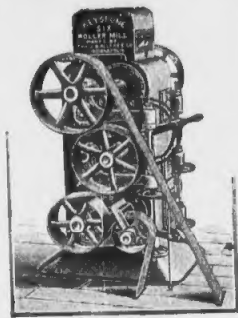
Flour Mills. * Corn Mills. * Hominy Mills.

Our Flour Surpasses All Competition, and the Mill Exceeds Guaranteed Capacity.

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THE J. B. ALLFREE CO., Indianapolis, Ind.
Gentlemen: I have been running my mill one week, and am well pleased with its work. Our flour surpasses all competition, and we have upwards of a dozen different brands to compete with. I am more than well pleased with the machinery and millwright work and the results obtained. The mill exceeds the capacity guaranteed, and we make less than 2 per cent of low grade. Wishing you the success that you deserve, I am,
Very truly yours,
J. A. PAYNE.

We are Highly Pleased With Your Machines and System of Corn Milling.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Jan. 27, 1890.
THE J. B. ALLFREE COMPANY, CHY.
Gentlemen: In reply to yours of the 24th inst. would say we are highly pleased with your machines and system of corn milling placed in our mill. The Allfree Corn Meal Purifier is the Prince of meal machines; it makes perfect separations, purifies and cleans the grits without waste, runs without noise and does not require any bracing.
Yours respectfully,
CHAS. E. BESBY & CO.



THE KEYSTONE

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THE DUNLAP BOLT

FOUR SIZES.

IT IS NOT A CENTRIFUGAL REEL.
IT IS A BOLTER AND DRESSER.

BROOKLYN, N. Y., Aug. 11, '91.

THE BRADFORD MILL CO., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Dear Sirs: Please ship as soon as possible, 4 Dunlap Bolts the same as the last one. This is about the "Boss" Bolt after all and we will want more of them after awhile. Yours truly,

KING'S CO. MILLING CO.,

John Harvey, Head Miller.

BUNKER HILL, ILL., May 28, '91.

THE BRADFORD MILL CO., Cincinnati, Ohio.

Gentlemen: Your Mr. Deobold has remodeled our mill, using two of your No. 3 Dunlap Bolts to reduce our Patent and Bakers. Have been running a week and find we can make 50 per cent. Patent, 42 per cent. Extra Fancy and 8 per cent. Low Grade. Our mill was rebuilt two years ago and it has never given satisfactory results until now. Yours very truly,

WISE, MERCER & CO.

THE BRADFORD MILL CO., CINCINNATI, OHIO.



"WESTERN" MILL SHELTER.

The Most Compact, Durable, Best Sheller and Best Cleaner.

Takes up but little room, runs at low rate of speed, requires no attention. It is in every respect the

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MILWAUKEE,

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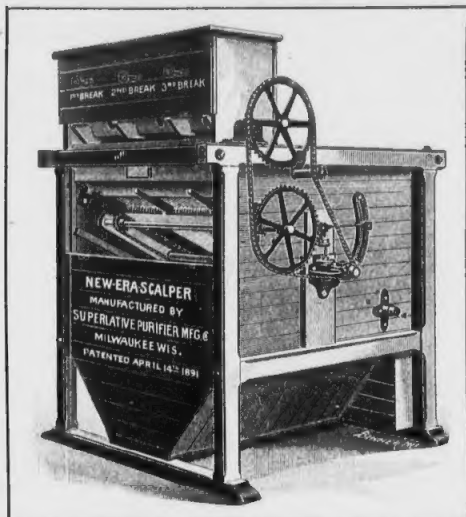
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THE improvements in milling made by the Sieve Scalper over the Reel Scalper is generally acknowledged. It occupies small space, requires little power, and does not scour and pulverize stock.

The above machine is the result of three years' practical experience with Sieve Scalpers, improvements being made as their advantages became apparent, until we now have the most perfect scalping device ever offered millers.

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Trial Allowed.

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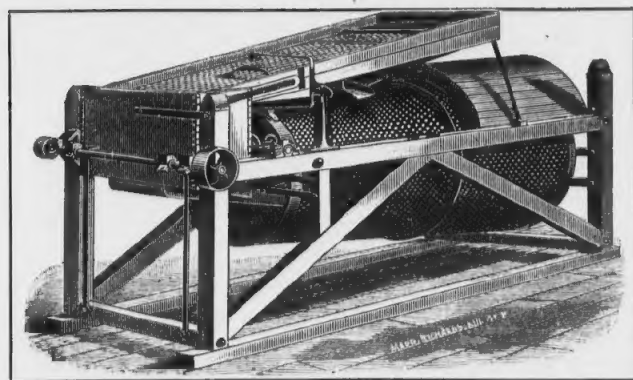
It infringes on no other machine, and we guarantee indemnity against patent suits.

THE merits of this Collector are shown by our constantly increasing trade among both millers and mill furnishers. No inferior machine could show such results after three years of trial.

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FURNISHED WITH EITHER STEEL OR ZINC CYLINDERS.

There are far more Cockle Separators of our make in operation and giving satisfaction than all other makes combined. Draw your own conclusions.

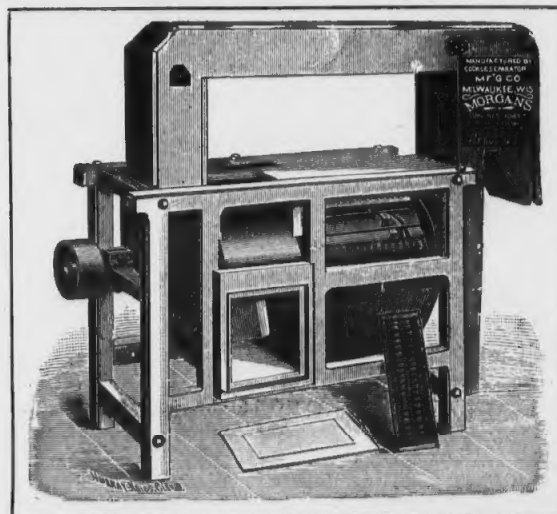
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